TUESDAY 1 OCTOBER 1996

WEATHER Surry and showers

Iron Chancellor' pledges 10p tax

ANTHONY BEVINS and STEPHEN GOODWIN

The shadow Chancellor, Gordon Brown, yesterday promised that a new 10p tax rate would be used by Labour to cut the penal rates at present imposed on the lowest-paid.

But Mr Brown coupled his tax pledge with an unflinching warning of financial prudence -"iron discipline" - ahead at the opening of the economic debate on the first day of Labour's last party conference before the general election. There would be no cooked books or juggled figures, no unsustainable dashes for growth, and oo "wish-list" spending solutions, he said.

Labour would be tough on inflatioo because the poor, "the people we are in politics to defend", suffered most when it got out of control.

> The reasoo the Labour Parnows iroo discipline in our roach to public spending." Brown said, "is that every nd that is inefficiently spent pound denied to our frootservices, to health and catioo and pensions". ut it was the firming-up of

commitment to a low-start tax that provided the meat of speech. "Just as a society ich values work and oppornity should not impose penal x rates for its highest earners," told the conference in lackpool, "it is equally imporant that there should not be peial tax rates for the lower earners - hundreds of thousands of people on the brink of

One of Mr Brown's aides said later that the Government's own tax and henefit tables showed that the poverty trap was so vicious that some people could actually be worse off

eveo if their income doobled. A married worker with two young children and gross pay of £120 a week has a disposable in-come of £145.86 after family credit, housing benefit and council tax benefit and housing costs have been paid. But because of the way in which benefits taper out as income rises, the same worker gets only £145.19 from weekly pay of £240.

Opening an afternoon's debate on the economy, Mr Brown said the system was "designed to keep the unemployed poor and the poor unemployed". He said that while the Conservatives' main tax-cutting ambi-tion was to abolish capital gains tax and inheritance tax, to help the few, his tax-cutting ambition to cut taxes was to cut spendwas to lower the starting rate of tax from 20p to 15p or even 10p,

to help everyone.

Mr Brown made clear that if he handed out a 10p tax cut for to reduce the 20p starting rate the lowest-paid, it would not immediately be snatched back through reduced benefit.

The aide also said that if Ken-





Twenty years after Denis Healey's dramatic speech in Blackpool, Gordon Brown promised a tough but radical programme for Labour

Tony Blair will today harden Labour's policy against hand guns by making it clear he would reject the report by Lord Cullen Into the Dunblane killings if it recom-

mends limited curbs. The Labour leader will usethis speech to the Labour Pariy conference to give a pledge that a Labour government will ban all hand guns over 22 calibre sporting weapons from private ownership and gun clubs.

Colin Brown, page 6.

David Aaronovitch's

David Aaronovitch's sketch and other Labour conference news, page 6. .. Donald Macintyre, page 15.

used the November Budget to abolish capital gains tax and inheritance tax, Labour would reimpose the two taxes and use the £4.5bn raised to finance an immediate reduction in the

starting rate of income tax. A Conscivative source said last night that while Mr Brown liked to talk tough, the only way ing, and there was nothing in the speech about spending cuts. He said that Treasury figures showed that it would cost £8.7bm of tax, applied to the first £3,900 of taxable income, to 10p-and do oot add up," he added. Tony Blair, the Labour leader, will use his speech this afternoon to try to turn the tables on John Major's suggestion that there is a moral case for tar cuts and smaller government. He will say that a decempoon ety is built on duty to the com moral code that would run through a Labour government. He will make a link between the creation of that decent society

and economic renewal. In his speech, Mr Brown said that his iron approach to the economy did not mean the our ideals possible," he said.

of New Labour. retary of the GMB, said Britain could not build economic success on "macho management" left over from the Thatcher years, "I know that the Labour CBI," he said. "But a party which is pledged to govern in the interests of all the people should be at least as critical of

abandonment of socialism, but was, rather, the very essence of it. "When I talk of tough choices and when I speak Ancurin Bevan's language of priorities it is not to abandon ideals. It is to make the achievement of But while Mr Brown's em-phasis on social justice won him phasis on social justice won him nomics as applied by successive a standing ovation; unions fired Labour and Conservative govwarning shots across the bows

Party does not want to upset the

Another Blackpool, another age: but Healey has lessons for Labour

Twenty years ago Denis Healey strode into a Labour conference bringing it news "from the bat-tlefront", having applied for a loan to the international Monctary Fund. That Labour government's humiliating head on crash with global contents reality in 1976 was a transforming moment for British politics; what Gordon Brown saidwas shaped by the memory.

Healey had to cut public spending in real terms and did it with brutal energy. It was the end not just for Keynesian ecoemments, but for tax-and-spend socialism too. After the con-John Edmonds, general sec- ference uproar Healey became a demon figure for many Labour supporters and, though he ran the economy successfully by many standards, his austerity helped bring about the trade unions' "winter of discontent" and the triumph of Margaret

Thatcher. . Undreamed-of levels of un-



The Labour Party itself came very close to final destruction. Its attitudes to inflation, tax, public spending and the unions today are all heavily marked by the trauma which broke upon

it once at Blackpool.
Yesterday Mr Brown
thumped out the hard lesson yet again: "No quick fixes. No easy options. No magic wand solutions by cooking the books or juggling the figures... No retreat into one nation isolationism. No unsustainable dashes for growth. No wish list spending solutions..." Those words could serve as a shrewd precis of the

struggling to discover a new message of its own. The latter has proved more difficult. Yes-the Thatcher years, the dilemterday, Brown told the confer- ma now is whether or oot ence he didn't want Labour to Britain formalises its adherstop dreaming dreams or watering down its idealism. And. certainly, proposals oo youth unemployment, the minimum wage and lower taxes for the poor all address traditional Labour concerns, even if in

untraditional ways. But if Labour wins an election this year or next, he has no choice but to be an iron Chancellor in the Healey mould. He must be tough on inflation - at least as tough as Major and tougher than Lord Lawson. He cannot allow public spending to grow much as a proportion of national wealth. He cannot greatly raise taxes for the bet-

ter-off or business. Within these tough boundaries, there are local, longerterm things a Chancellor can do, and Brown makes a vivid rhetorical case for doing them.

seen Labour struggling first to next hig choice to confront the is not, apparently, big enough accept this message and then managers of the British econ- to merit serious discussion in omy, he said oothing. For after ence to the new orthodoxy by

joining a single currency. That is a great question, splitting the Tory party in 1996 even more dramatically than the IMF crisis and its consequences split Labour after 1976. But it Labour should oever forget.

There are only

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How come

are ours?

so many of them

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public by the Labour leadership. Let's hope that Tony Blair turns to it today. Because the other thing about that stormy Labour conference of two decades ago is that big truths were hurled around the floor; it was a moment of trauma for our politics, but also a time of honesty and openness. And that is another

ROLEX

£4:35bn to cut it to only 15p in the pound. "He is the incredishould be at least as critical of bad management as it often is in became public enemy of trade unions." employment followed. Inflation became public enemy number one, with trade unionspeeches made by Healey and Callaghan 20 years ago. neth Clarke, the Chancellor, Make love when the light's on Queen month and can typically expect 6 to 10 "red light" days per cy-cle. The test measures the lev-GLENDA COOPER

Country

Starting tomorrow in The Independent, an important and provocative new assessment of the Queen and the mooarchy's battle to survive, by the eminent historian Ben Pimlott. Pimloit, whose biography of the Queen is published later this month, is one of the best political biographers writing today. Using new archive sources and interviews with the Queen's closest advisers, he presents a portrait of a family on the throne from the General Strike through to a contemporary Britain firting with republicanism. Extracts all this week, only The Independent.

Couples will be given the green light to have sex without risking pregnancy with the launch of a new method of contracep-

tion vesterday.

Marketed as "contraception without contraceptives", Persona, a small hand-held monitor, measures a woman's hormone levels by simple urine tests and tells her when she can make love and yet not conceive by "traffic light" signals.

The monitor displays a green light on the days she is free to have sex without using any

US summit plans

Dismissing Arab demands for

a postponement, the US yes-

terday pressed ahead with plans to convene an emergency Mid-

dle East summit to try to restore peace between Israel and the Palestinians. Mike McCurry,

the White House spokesman,

said: "We expect the meeting

that the president announced to

Kohl's big adventure

Page 9

only knew the two Germanys yesterday.

In a book launched today, the German Chancellor, Helmut Kohl, seeks to show that he not

1,200 women were involved in studies to estimate its efficacy. The studies have found that there is a 95 per cent efficacy rate, which makes Persona as re-

versely, a reddight shows the

days when she is most fertile.

hable as the condom but less reliable than the Pill. In the first monthly cycle the woman has to take 16 urine tests which will be used to build up a picture of the woman's individual cycle. From then on she

would unite in his lifetime, but

carried the project through al-most single handedly, with a lit-tle help from the Soviet leader

Mikhail Gorbachev. Page 11

Underground dangers

London Underground said it

may have to reduce services or slow down trains unless more

money is made available for in-

vestment from the Government.

The method took over 15 els of two hormones; estradiol and inteinizing hormones [LH], which are markers of the woman's fertile period. The appearance of estradiol marks years to develop and more than the beginning of the fertile period whereas the surge in LH indicates the end of the fertile phase.

Women who took part in the clinical trials said that the main advantages of this method were the lack of side effects, ease of use and the freedom to must test herself eight times a have sex without using contra-

of people"

Urban eyesores

John Gummer, the Secretary of

State for the Environment, yes-

terday attacked urban eyesores

which had, he said, "destroyed

the lives of a very large number

The Wodehouse files

B itish intelligence regarded the author PG Wodehouse as "a

rat", but doubted whether trea-

son charges could be made to

son energes could be made to suck because of a lack of evidence lifter the Second World Pair, according to files released to the Pairie, Record Office in Leasth yesterday. Page 3

ception. However Persona of-fers no protection from sexual-added that while the Pill was 99 ly transmitted diseases such as per cent effective, Persona was HIV the virus which causes Aids and if a couple choose to make love on the "red light pregnant should be aware of the days" alternative forms of contraception must be used.

"Persona is a real breakthrough in contraception," said Professor John Guillebaud, director of the Margaret Pyke can be bought from B Centre. "It increases women's stores from today. A st choice, offering them a method pack containing a monitor that is not only unambiguous the first month's supply that is not only unambiguous and simple to use, but gives a test sticks costs £49.9. sense of empowerment, of being in control, a woman work-sticks costs 29.95.

FASHION 14,15 9

only 95 per cent and women who felt they must not get change of a fivefold degree of efficacy".

traception Persona will n available free on the NH

BUSINESS & CITY 16-20 **COMMENT** 13-15 FOREIGN NEWS 8-11 LISTINGS 2 LEADING ARTICLES 18 UNIT TRUSTS20 ARTS 11-18

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CHRISTIAN WOLMAR Transport Correspondent

London Underground admitted last night that it may have lo reduce services or slow down trains through speed restrictions unless more money is made available for investment from the Government

A catalogue of decay and disrepair, some of it life-threatening, is portrayed in a report prepared for government ministers and leaked yesterday.

The report was not intended to be published because of fears that it would deter people

New

blow

to

Ulster

peace

In an ominous sign for the continuation of the loyalist cease-

fire, jailed members of one of

the two main Protestant para-military groups yesterday an-nounced that they were withdrawing support from the

The announcement came

from prisoners affiliated to the

Ulster Defence Association

held at Northern Ireland's main

paramilitary jail, the Maze prison outside Belfast.

It followed meetings between

prisoners' representatives and leaders of the Ulster Democ-

ratic party, one of the groups

which represent the interests of

lovalist paramilitants at the

UDP spokesman John White, himself a former pris-

oner, said he was concerned about a situation which could

develop into crisis. He said the

prisoners felt that republicans were talking about peace but in

reality preparing for war. The move is seen as a clear

sign of growing strains on the

lovalist ecasefire, which has

held since October 1994. Last

week's discovery of a major IRA

explosives cache in England

has convinced some elements,

who had previously been pre-pared to give republicans the benefit of the doubt, that the

iRA is intent on a return to

In recent years, prisoners

have been among the more

moderate elements within mil-

itant lovalism, having strongly

supported the establishment of

Earlier yesterday. Gary

McMichael of the UDP said

that he viewed the IRAs stance

with cynicism, adding that a restoration of the ceasefire

would not by enough to allow

Sinn Fein into talks on the

rame basis as other particl-

also freen increased by Sunday

meht's abortive attempt by a re-

publican splinter group to let off

a large bomb in Beltast. Police

said yesterday that a ear close to the city centre had been to and to contain 250lb of home-

made explosives, an amount large enough to cause wide-

In Bettain four men appeared

in a high security court vester-

day charged with terrorist of-

tences after police raids last

Unease in localist circles has

the ceasetire.

DAVID McKITTRICK

peace process.

Stormont talks.

Ireland Correspondent

prepared to try lo ensure that senger revenue. This year, De-out, there was a one in six Londoo Transport's grant from partment of Transport sources chance of someone being killed the Government is not cul in next month's Budget.

Transport mirastructure has traditionally beeo a balancing item in government budgets, ofteo being cul at times of restraints on spending and London Transport has prepared this extraordinary document to put pressure on ministers not to

Last year, after rumours of sharp cuts, the grant was unchanged at £350m, following a campaign by pressure groups and husiness interests. LT invests another £200m from pas-

are bracing themselves for a by falling masonry. Now the per cent cut, which would probably result in £100m being

cut from LT's grant. The document outlines in detail how several stations are in a state of disrepair which London Underground can only afford to patch up.

For example, Ladbroke Grove in west London, an elevated station built above a main road, is collapsing on its own foundations. The report suggests that there is a serious risk of collapse and that, until emergency repair work was carried

ly new station is needed at a cost of £45m. Escalators, too, are causing chance is still one in 30 and concern with a collapse of a stair

£1.7m is occided to remedy the at Euston causing a passenger to break an ankle. There is poteotial for what LT engi-Water penetration is causing severe problems at many stanears call "complete step coltions. At Piccadilly Circus, tiles lapse" and as an interim are falling off, putting passeo-gers at risk of being hit and wa-ter is also shorting out electrical circuits. The cost of making long measure £3.8m is needed for repairs, while the long term solution of a total redesign is term repairs is £2.5m.

At Covent Garden, the in-

creased use as a result of the

successful redevelopment of

the area, with 40,000 passengers using it per day means a total-

London First, the husiness pressure group, has calculated that an extra £150m per year would allow LT to cut the backlog of investment within five years and become self financing

showing just how bad the con-sequences of a low budget could . We are very hopeful that this will not happen but in any event the octwork will be kept in a state of repair by a regime speed limits or withdrawal from

the only major metro system in the world that pays all its run-

ning costs out of the passenger fare box, with only investment being funded from government. An LT spokeswoman sand last night: "This is a confidential internal study which we shared with senior government officials

Nuclear plant Child ta closed in alert on poisoned. over waste

Heightened radioactivity in waste water being discharged into the sea led to one of the two nuclear fuel reprocessing plants at Dounreay, in north Scotland, being shut down at

The shutdown, revealed esterday, is thought to have been due to a leak in a cooling pipe. Officials at the nt, operated by AEA Ltd. said the excess radioactivity vas within authorised limits and posed no danger to the workforce or public.

The plant will be out of action for an unspecified length of time while engineers try to find the cause of the fault. The problem was discovered on Saturday during routine checks. Charles Arthur

Hallucination is no illusion

Around 37 per cent of people report suffering from hallucinations at least twice a week, according to a survey of more than 5,000 people.

The British Journal of Psy-

chiatry comments that hypno-gogic hallucinations - vivid perceptual experiences oc-curring at sleep onset – are far more common than expected. Around 12.5 per cent of people also experience hypnopomic hallucinations

which occur on awakening. In both cases, the feeling of falling into an abyss was most common, followed by the feeling that someone or something was in the room. Other hallucinations included the sensation of flying, seeing moving or distorted objects, and being caught in a fire. Glenda Cooper.

College trust chief named

Sir Angus Stirling, former Director General of the National Trust, was named yes-terday as chairman of the trust with responsibility for the historic Royal Naval Col-

lege in Greenwich. The decision to hand over the running of the college in south-east London to a trust has caused concern at the nearby National Maritime Museum, which had hoped to play a major role in opening the Wren-designed 17th cen-

ury buildings to the public. However, the University of Greenwich is to move into the site under the trust's administration

Murder hunt suffers blow

Detectives in Kent, leading the hunt for the killer of Lin Russell and her six-year-old daughter, Megan, said yester-day that foreusic tests on a hammer found near the scene proved it was not the

murder weapon. The oews emerged just days before the funerals of Mrs Russell and Megan in north Wales. When the hammer was discovered on 9 September, two months after the brutal murders, police described it as "crucial" evi-

village green

A 10-year-old boy was in hospital vesterday after playing on a village green, believed to have been contaminated with poison, which has al-ready claimed the lives of

three family pets.
Police believe someone who hates dogs is responsible and have warned parents to keep their children away from the green, in Thornaby. Cleveland. Warnings were also issued in schools throughout the area.

Vets were examining the carcases of two of the dogs at Ministry of Agriculture labo-ratories in Thirsk, North

Hospital staff set for strikes

Nurses, porters and other staff at some of the country's most prestigious teaching hospitals are set for a series of 24-hour strikes after voting for industrial action over pay, it was announced yesterday.

Around 1,000 members of

Unison employed by UCL Hospitals Trust in central London are seeking a 6.5 per cent pay claim. The union has rejected a rise of 3.25 per cent for its members, who work at the Middlesex, University College and Elizabeth Garrett Anderson hospitals.

Memory lane shortened

It may be televisioo's crown jewels, but broadcasters have decided that the the early years of Coronation Street wil not grip modern viewers.

Granada Sky Broadcasting. which launches seven oew channels on cable and satellite today, has decided to start repeating the soap opera from 1976 onwardsmissing out 16 years' episodes, Executives believe younger andiences would be left cold by the early

Adviser 'stole charity cash'

A trusted financial adviser first sold the Salvation Army a multi-million pound "poppycock" investment scheme and then plundered £1.2m of it to pay off his "enormous debts", a court heard.

Former soldier Stuart Ford, 45, used some of his illgotten gains to buy a new house and car, it was alleged at Southwark Crown Court

Bus driver on drink charge

The driver of a doubledecker bus carrying 82 pas-sengers - mostly children has been charged with drink driving after being stopped

on a busy motorway.

Police breathalysed the driver on the M6 near Preston. Lancashire. It is understood the bus, owned by a Liverpool firm, was taking a party to the Frontierland theme park at Morecambe.

BACK ISSUES

Fighting talk: Police confront a protester outside a Merseyside container base where more than 300 demonstrators marked the first anniversary

of the sacking of 329 dockers by the Mersey Docks Company. Two police officers were hurt and 41 people arrested Photograph: Lloyd Wright/Mercury Press

Hamilton drops libel case over cash for questions

Former Tory minister Neil byist lan Greer dropped their "cash for questions" libel claim against the Guardian last night, in one of the most humiliating climb-downs in recent legal his-

The full-scale retreat came less than 24 hours before the action was due to start in the High Court today, with both agree-ing to what Alan Rusbridger. the newspaper's editor, called a "substantial" contribution to

its costs. Mr Rusbridge said in a statement that the decision not to proceed "must be one of the most astonishing legal cave-ins in the history of the law of li-

Mr Hamilton was sumg over the paper's claim that he had ac-cepted, without making decla-

Former minister pulls out on eve of of us to instruct new solicitors hearing, writes Patricia Wynn Davies

time for tabling parliamentary questions oo behalf of Mommed al-Fayed, the chairman of Harrods, and for accepting free hospitality at Mr Fayed's Ritz Hotel in Paris. Mr Greer was suing over claims that he had acted as an intermediary.

One factor lying behind last night's decision is understood to be the rapidly deteriorating re-lations between the two plain-tiffs, It will come as no surprise to close observers of Mr Greer, who had sensed he wanted ont. For his part, Mr Hamilton had evoked the ire of some Cooservative colleagues for bring-ing the highly embarrassing

rations in the Commons register of MPs' interests, £2,000 a cations and in which John Major had been subpoenaed to appear as a witness, during the

party conference season. After months of hravado on the part of Mr Hamilton, the humiliation was complete wheo he and Mr Greer paid a joint £15,000 cootribution to The Guardian's legal costs, which will run well into six figures.

Mr Hamilton said in a statement last night that be was "dev-astated" at having to withdraw from the action to fight Mr Faved's "uncorroborated" statements, "bul since a conflict of interest has now arisen between me and my co-plaintiffs, it has become necessary to each and new counsel.

Mr Hamilton, who secured a change in the constitutional rules covering MPs in order to proceed with the case, had been rumoured to have secured the agreement of Sir James Goldsmith, the leader of the Referendum Party, to underwrite some of his costs. But he said in the statement that the trial would have had to be postponed to enable new lawyers to prepare the case afresh at enor-

mously increased cost. "My costs to date have exceeded £150,000 and as a backbench member of Parliament I am simply oot in a position to raise another substantial sum." Mr Hamilton said he would present evidence he had as-

sembled to the Commons Com-

mittee for Standards and



of case became too high Tony Newton, the Leader of the

House, to reactivate the com-

mittee's currently suspended

investigations.

Independent school heads accuse Labour

מסטנ אזוסטנ

On Tuesday

8th October, BT

introduce a

telephone table

everyone

will appreciate.

BUT WILL IT

HAVE LEGS?

Independent schools yesterday accused the Labour party of Brian McHugh, Patrick Febrse Joseph Kelly, James Marphy and Michael Phillips misleading them throughout a year of negotiations over a rewere all remanded until 9 Deplacement for the Assisted Places Scheme.

Public school heads said at that Labour local authorities the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference in Glasgow that they were stepping up their campaign against Labour plans to abolish the scheme after talks with Labour politicians

stalled.

A year ago heads hoped Labour might be persuaded to put pressure on local authorities to buy places in independent schools for children with special aptitudes if Assisted Places were abolished under a Labour government. Vivian Anthony, the Conference Secretary, said: We would have liked there to be some co-operation. All we have got is very nice smiles and everyone trying to be friendly

and nothing that is real."
The heads have been trying to negotiate a deal under which independent schools would open their facilities more frequently to state school people in return for places bought by local authorities. Authorities already have the power to buy places under the Martin Rule hut few do so. During the year, Labour has said that it will continue to buy places in music and ballet schools and floated the idea that local authority funds might be used to buy places in maths and science at indepen-

dent schools. Hugh Wright, head of King Edward's School in Birmingham said it was unrealistic to suppose

were going to buy places for tal-coted children in independent schools under the present system; "They are trying to soften the blow of the abolitioo of the scheme, which is obviously unpopular in some quarters, by putting up somewhat bogus al-

Labour has said it will scrap the scheme which offers 34,000 places for pupils from poor homes in private schools and use the money to reduce infant class sizes. The heads said the redistribution of the 120 million Assisted Places money would achieve a reductioo in each primary class size of only 1/16th. In the first year only £15 million would be saved because Labour has said it will not remove existing Assisted Places.

Labour's calculations took no account of the amount of money it would cost to educate Assisted Places children in the state sector. Later Tony Evans, the Cooference chairman and head of Portsmouth Grammar School told members that universities had expanded too rapidly. He suggested that the development of mass higher concation could have endangered the quality of demanding courses such as Law and Medicine because the num-

Hi-tech plan for University of the Highlands

JOJO MOYES *1

The Millennium Commission yesterday announced a £33m award towards the creation of a revolutionary University of the Highlands and Islands.

The high-technology dis-persed campus will bring to-gether 11 colleges of higher education and other specialist institutions through a digital communications network offering video and computer links.

The award for the university was the biggest part of a total Scottish awards package of nearly £47m and by far the greatest of 10 announced yesterday. Most of them involve the creation or renovation of community ceotres and halls in Scotland, Wales and Northein

ireland. The total cost of the univerty development is estimated at £86m hul the commission's award is expected to encourage a total investment of at least £100m over the next five year which will provide the universi ty with other new communica tions facilities, libraries an learning resources, with maje capital developments at eac

The university's first degree a BSc in rural development, va

idated by Aberdeen University was launched earlier this month. It is being delivered initially by Lews Castle College in

Stornoway.

The project has drawn backing from local authorities, businesses and community groups across the region.

Lord Dalkeith, Millennium

Commissioner for Scotland, made the announcement at the Inverness headquarters of the development agency Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE), which made the funding bid. The agency's chairman, Fras-

er Morrison, said: "This project will not only hring academic gains to the Highlands, but will provide a powerful and dynamic motor for economic and community development for the next century."

Many of the university's students are expected to be parttimers. The university hopes to attract the equivalent of some 5,000 full-time students.

"This project will deliver a very different kind of university for Britain and Europe, Robin Lingard, UHI project director, said. "Its combination of community commitment, federal collegiate structure and strong emphasis on technology breaks oew ground."



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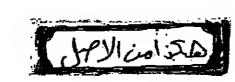
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Secret files opened: MI5 continued to believe that comic author could be prosecuted

A silly ass, but not a traitor: At last, the real story of PG Wodehouse

JAMES CUSICK

The writer PG Wodehouse was guilty of being a vam and stupid ass but nothing more, despite widespread baying for him to face treason or treachery charges, according to files re-leased by the Public Record Office yesterday.

The creator of Jeeves and Bertie Wooster recorded five talks in 1941 for the Nazi aothorities in Berlin which were later broadcast to Britain. Al- lack of evidence. though oo charges were brought against Wodehouse at the eod of the war, in 1946 MI5 was still reluctant fully to abandoo the case and was coo-

vinced it could be reopened. The files released yesterday show the concern over Wodehouse's wartime activities reaching the senior echelons of the Foreign, Home and Cabinet offices, British Intelligence and the Prime Minister, Winston

With the liberation of Paris in the autumn of 1944, Wode-house, then living with his wife, Ethel, in the expensive Hotel Bristol, came back under the supervision of MI5.

The Foreign Office, two years after Wodehouse's: Berlin hroadcasts, had begun consulting the theo Home Secretary, Herbert Morrison, about the likely public clamour for trea-

Morrison, Churchill's astute socialist fixer, wrote: "I should think he [Wodehouse] must know enough to be aware that his position here [in the UK] will be, to say the least, unpleasant." Morrison and the British authorities then began a series of manoeuvres to ensure they never faced putting Wodehouse in the dock. There appears, from the files, to have been a fear that a treason trial could embarrassingly collapse from a

With Wodehouse, in 1944, seeking to leave Paris and possibly head for Portugal, the authorities guessed he would oot wish to return to the England he had characterised and parodied in the oovels and plays that had made him wealthy

and internationally famous. Morrison, in February 1943, had written: "If the rat has enough intelligence to leave the sinking ship, I should sus-pect he must have enough in-telligence oot to put himself within the jaws of the British mastiff."

Wodehouse and his wife were at their home in Le Touquet in oorthern France when they were arrested by occupying German troops in 1940. They were initially interned in a camp but after Wodehouse's Berlin-broadcasts had been living at the plush Adlon Hotel in



Not Goethe after all: The Nazis apparently overestimated PG Wodehouse's Importance Photograph: Tom Blau/Camera Press

the Hotel Bristol. His rooms at the hotel were reserved, according to the hotel director, Marcel Vidal, by the German authorities in Paris. When Britain reopened its embassy in de Gaulle's France

wife were allowed to move to

in 1944, Duff Cooper, the appointed ambassador, found himself living at the Bristol alongside the Wodehouses. He was not pleased. Duff Cooper, a former Minister of Information, said in a "most secret" disatch that "Sir David Petric is fully informed and has sent an officer to investigate." Sir David was head of MI5.

Wodehouse, known by the Germans as British Civilian Prisoner number 796 when he was interned, was later paid 250 marks by the Nazi authorities.

Spode of the Black Shorts

Could a Hitler sympathiser have written The Code of the Woosters, featuring the preposterous Mosley pastiche, Roderick Spode, founder of the "Black Shorts"? Wodehouse wrote of Spode;

of the "Black Shorts"? Wodehouse wrote of Spode;

It was as if Nature had intended to make a gorilla, and had changed its mind at the last moment. But it wasn't merely the sheer expanse of the bird that impressed. Close to, what you noticed more was his face, which was square and powerful and slightly moustached towards the centre. His gaze was keen and piercing. I don't know if you have ever seen those pictures in the papers of Dictators with tilited chins and blazing eyes, inflaming the populace with flery words on the occasion of a new skittle alley, but that is what he reminded me of

Paris embassy's press depart-ment, Plack's name also surfaces in a money transfer of 560,000F, which in late autumn 1944 made its way into Ethel Wodehouse's account via the Swiss

consulate. Why a Reich official, as his country was retreating back beWodehouse claimed the mon-

ey was, is never fully explained. An initial suggestion from Duff Cooper that the Wodehouses were short of cash was immediately dismissed on investigation. One assumption appears to be that the Wodehouses were still in the pay of The paymaster was Weiner hind its own borders, would be the Third Reich whilst conve-lack, a member of the General countries to pay a debt, see Mrs enterthy living and disting along-

side senior diplomats of the Al-

Despite allegations listed in the newly released files from Wodehouse's fellow internees that he was a "collaborator", the writer himself wrote to the Home Secretary in late 1944, admitting he had been "crimi-oally foolish" to hroadcast on German radio.

One theory meotioned in the files details an interview with an Austrian detainee, Freddie Krans, This states that the Germans had originally thought Wodehouse "was the English Goethe" and that the "FO in Berlin had made fools of themselves", once they found out he

was merely a comic author. Wodehouse left Paris for the United States in 1947. He died in 1975, aged 93, shortly after receiving an honorary knight-

Widow fights for right to child by dead husband

PATRICIA WYNN DAVIES Legal Affairs Editor

A young widow was yesterday preparing for a legal battle to be allowed to have a child using her dead husband's sperm. Meanwhile, another mother was embroiled in a test case over her refusal to allow her baby to

There a her transplant.

"The bar cases are the latest to spot the the controversial ethical and legal arguments over "formed conscot" to

They are in the wake of protests provoked by High no right to risk her own death and that of her unborn child by withholding consent to a cae-

In the latest dilemma, the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA), which regulates artificial in-semination, has blocked an at-tempt by the 30-year-old widow, DB, to have her dead husband's child because he never consented in writing to the use of sperm taken from him in March last year while he was brain dead on a life support ma-chine after falling into a coma. In the first case of its kind,

Mrs B will challenge the authority's strict application of the law in a High Court judicial review tomorrow. Mrs B, from the Midlands, has protested that before his illness she and her husband had read about a widow receiving sperm from a dead husband and had agreed to the same if ever faced with a similar situation. "I know what his feelings were and I lost my husband," she said yesterday, "But I didn't lose the ability to have his child . . . I want

the rest of my life back." But Ruth Deech, chairman of the HFEA, said: "The notion of consent is fundamental to the Human Fertilisation & Em-hryology Act 1990. The Act expressly requires the written consent of a man to the storage and use of his gametes [sperm]

Moreover, written consent is only valid after the donor has had the opportunity to receive counselling, including consideration of the welfare of any

Directions made under the Act also ban the export of sperm unless it could be used lawfully in Britain, which means Mrs B cannot take advantage of offers by doctors to carry out the procedure in Belgium or the

Mrs B's predicament stands in contrast to a series of judge-ments on the other side of the coin where the consent rule does not appear to have been so strictly applied. But Sheila Kitzinger, of Positive Care in Obstetries & Gynaecology, said: "I cannot help but feel that if a child learned about what had happened at a later date that child would feel very loved, very cherished and very want-

ation said it had "tremendous sympathy" with Mrs B. But a spokeswoman said that the professioo was "very anxious" that the principle of informed consent was not croded in cases involving people in comas, or suffering from mental disable-

John Parsons, the consultant in charge of the assisted conception unit at King's Col-lege Hospital, London, insisted. "It's important that people's geoetic material is not used against their will. There is no way of being sure that although the man wanted a child with his wife, he also wanted her to have their child after his death."

As the controversy continued, a 27-year-old mother was meanwhile battling before the Court of Appeal in a test case over a parent's right to choose surgery for a child. David Harris QC, for the mother's local health authority, said the court's duty was to decide what was in the "best interests of the child"

The mother fears that the child would oot survive the op-

THE INDEPENDENT







A great decade

Next Monday 7 October sees our 10th anniversary and we'll be celebrating the decade throughout the week with reviews of news, business, sport, the arts and life, as seen through the eyes of The independent over the last ten years. And we've got something else for you to look forward to, with an improved Section Two and an expanded Independent on Saturday, including a great new supplement.

See you there.

Mosley's links with Berlin are revealed

JOHN CROSSLAND

An MI5 report on the finances of Sir Oswald Mosley's Pascist party, drawn up for wartime Home Secretary Herbert Morrison, reveals that he won the German franchise for his commercial radio station Radio Sark, thanks to his wife's friend-

ship with Hitler.
One of 10 heavily-weeded files on British Fascism released yesterday at the Public Record-Office shows that Mosley's British Union of Fascists (BUF) was desperately short of mon-ey on the outbreak of war, despite the generous support of backers like Lord Rothermere, owner of the Daily Mail, and a former Air Minister.

The repost signed by G P Churchill Secretary of the Special Advisory Committee on er the BUF became very sen-ous, he said Because of his priv-ileged background Sir Oswald had not needed to make moncyuntil he was 40. "Then for the first time he entered the commercial world. He was aware while in America that £20m a year was spent on radio advertising and such money could be employed in financing the movement to which he had giv-en his life." Radio Sark, which

broadcast primarily to France

and Belgium, was one of the first

such ventures in Europe. G P Churchill told Morrison that in June 1938 Sir Oswald "entered into association with persons concerned with the government of Germany in connection with a wireless broadcasting station to be erected there. He said Lady Mosley was instrumental in achieving this, and quoted Sir Oswald's testiment to the computer. She could see Hitler constantly and discuss it with him. I want to be ultra fain about firs ... that know-ing Hiller would get doors spen

be opened." Lady Mosley, said ber husband, was a great friend of Frau Goebbels and they had married in the Goebbels' Berlin

home in Hitler's presence.
The report revealed that Special Branch had uncovered a secret BUF bank account, worth £86,000 (in 1940 values), which was used as a conduit pipe to feed in funds to the organisa-tion from supporters like Lord Rothermere, who wanted to conceal that support".



Mosley: Married at Goebbe

in Briston prison in 1943, Mosley was used as a guinea pig in experiments with a revolutionary treatment to cure

A letter from Frank Smith, president of the International Haemophiliac Society complains to Morrison about the Medical Research Council's "abuse of its privileges in blocking development of an antithrombotic substance which would have mitigated the most serious aspects of Mosley's condition" which was then causing

concern in the prison hospital. treated with the new drug but the treatment was not completed due to his release" by Mozzison, who "didn't want to



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New cases bring CJD total to fourteen

CHARLES ARTHUR Science Editor

Evidence is growing of a genetic link between people who develop the "new variant" of the fatal brain disorder Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, which has been tentatively linked to eating BSE-infected food,

Two more cases of the "new variant" were announced at the weekend by the CJD Surveillance Unit in Edinburgh. Both victims were in their thirties. The diagnosis brings the total number of cases of the new strain in the past three years to 14, seven of whom have died.

A 15-year-old girl, who is still alive, has been confirmed as having CJD from tests on spinal fluid, using a technique develoned in the US. She is not being included in the official statistics until the disease has

Though the growth in numbers this year could be the sign of the start of an epidemic, it is more likely to be an accident of timing, as the seven people developed the disease at different times, said Professor Peter Smith. an epidemiologist on the government's advisory

The new strain has been tentatively linked to BSE, or mad cow disease, because it differs in a number of respects from the classic form of CJD, which normally affects people over 60. The new strain has been found almost exclusively in Britain apart from one case in France - in the past three years in peo-ple aged under 42. It is a similar sort of disease to BSE, in which the brain becomes

spongy with holes. Significantly, all of the 14 British victims have had the same genetic configuration on that is essential to the function come through."

of some brain cells in its normal form. In CJD. this protein's ape becomes distorted after it has been made in the body by "rogue" proteins known as pri-ons. The particular PrP config-uration found in the 14 "new strain" victims occurs in 38 per cent of the population. The fact that no cases of the new strain have occurred in people with different PrP configurations could mean that others are less

susceptible to the disease. Sheila Gore, of the Medical Research Council's biostatistics unit, called yesterday for the CJD unit to issue more information about the number of suspected "new-strain" cases referred to it, rather than issuing figures only for confirmed cases. "Though only a certain proportion are confirmed, we need to know what proportion that is," said Dr Gore. "Once we know that, we can work back from the number of confirmed cases at any stage to how many suspect cases there are which will be confirmed."

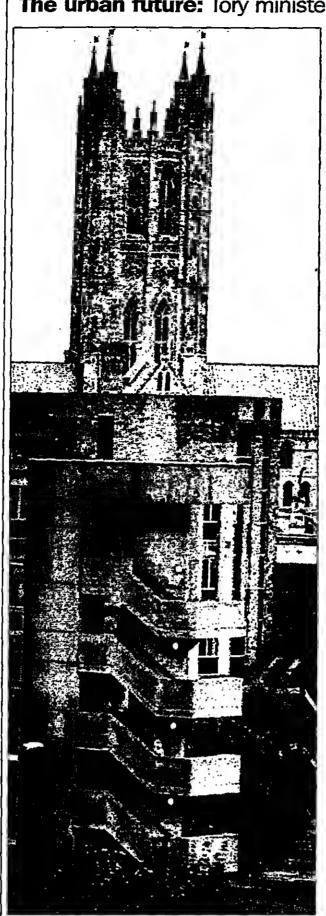
The Department of Health intends to publish its latest quarterly report on CID cases later this month, covering the three months to the end of September. However, there are no plans at present to include sus-

pected cases in those under 40.

Dr Gore said, "It would be useful if they did, because if it turned out that eventually 90 per cent of those suspected cases are confirmed as the new strain, we would have something to work with. If it was only 10 per cent, at least we would be able to decide not to take much notice."

Professor John Pattison, head of Seac, said "I think it's notable that the total number of referrals isn't higher than in 1994, when the unit had its highest number of cases of CID.

The urban future: Tory minister links crime to environment and condemns the 'executive close'



a particular point of the PrP
That means there's not a great genc, which produces a protein backlog of cases that haven't The postwar error: A car park at Canterbury, a city which is and office blocks. He attacked drawing up schemes to hring to agreeing a new develop
1960s concrete shopping centres local people, collaborated in landowner are well on the way to Portland Place, London Wi.

The postwar error: A car park at Canterbury, a city which is now trying to reduce traffic



Blots on the city landscape destroy lives, says Gummer

VICHOLAS SCHOON **Environment Correspondent**

John Gummer, the Secretary of State for the Environment, vesterday attacked urban eyesores. which had, he said, "destroyed the lives of a very large number

of people".

And, in an unusual statement for a Conservative Cabinet minister, he said the bad environment resulting from many post-war developments was to blame for crime and anti-social hehaviour. "It's not surprising that people draw graffit, drop litter and steal," he added.

Mr Gummer was opening an exhibition on good design at the London headquarters of the Royal Institute of British Architects as part of his campaign to clear away eyesores and replace them with "good mannered" development which would be respected and admired for decades.

His targets were not just ugly Photograph: Kent News "executive-style" housing for the new life to run-down areas. ment, there are some out-

way it cut itself off from the rest of society. "The 'executive close' is an abomination: it's meant to say we live here but we are not of here," he said. Mr Gummer said ordinary villagers rarely came to accept the people who lived in such developments as

part of the community. The planning minister in the Department of the Environment, Robert Jones, will repeat those views in a meeting today with the National Federation of House Builders, which represents hig home constructors.

Mr Gummer said Britain had much to learn from the Portuguese. There, when city authorities re-develop urhan areas, they sometimes involve a historian and a sociologist in the design of the huildings and streets. The aim is to give a sense of continuity.
The Riba exhibition features

21 case studies where planners, landowners, architects and developers have, after consulting

The case studies are part of standing issues which show how a campaign which will lead to commercial pressures can stand Britain's first official, governin the way of what is now rement guidance on what constitutes good urban design new buildings, roads and open spaces that lit well with their surroundings and that should

of the schemes depicted in the exhibition are certain to be One is for the Whitefriars area of Canterbury, where the 1960s shops, multi-story car

park and hus station built on a large bomb site within the still-standing city walls have be-come an embarrassment. The buildings clash with the narrow streets and the old, two- and three-storey houses which still dominate the cathedral city's historic core; in Whitefriars they are much taller, grey and flat-roofed and the streets are

stand the test of time. Several

much wider. But while Canterbury City Council and another major

STAR PERFORMER

in the way of what is now re-

Ball drug lead surg

1111

1.5

garded as good design. Today's majority view is that there should be mixed development in city centres instead of the zoning of the past, with homes as well as shops and offices. That cuts the need to travel to work and helps keep the area alive at night. In Canter-hury there is a debate on how much housing there will be in Whitefriars - currently there is

Another contentious issue concerns parking. The council's policy is to move car parks outside the city walls, making shoppers more reliant on park-and-ride schemes. It wants the num-ber of car parking spaces in Whitefriars to be cut from the current 840 to 500. The chamber of commerce and many shop-owners are strongly op-

posed. The exhibition runs at Riba,



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LF/IND/5

Ban pain drug, says leading surgeon

Istanbul

scattle of

A leading surgeon yesterday called for a ban on paracetamol, one of the most widely used painkillers in the world. Professor Sir David Carter,

director of the Liver Transplant Centre at Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, said that paracetamol overdose was the commonest cause of acute liver failure and accounted for about one in 10 of liver transplants he carried out.

The cheap, over-the-counter drug is highly toxic to the liver in large doses and as little as 20 tablets can result in life threatening liver disease. Many of those who take it are young and are making a "cry for help rather than a serious suicide attempt", he said.

tempt", he said.

Each year, there are 150 deaths and 30,000 hospital admissions due to paracetamol overdose. Following an overdose there is often a latent period in which the victim feels and appears quite well, thinks they have survived their suicide attempt and does oot tell any-



Sir David Carter: Would like to see paracetamol off shelves

ooe what they have dooe and sees no oeed for medical help. When liver failure then develops it is often too late either to save the organ or carry out a transplant.

Speaking at the British Medical Association's annual clinical meeting in Istanbul yesterday, Sir David said: "I would like to see if off the shelves... I don't understand the reasons why it is available."

A paracetamol formulationcootaining the chemical acetylcysteine, which acts as an antidote to the drug's toxic effects
oo the liver, is available but is;
much more expensive. Using
paracetamol tablets. There is little support either from the
Government or the drug industry for safer formulations at

a more accessible price.
Sir David has promised to highlight the dangers of the drug in his role as the newly appointed Scottish Chief Medical Officer. Another issue he said he would emphasise is the idea

British Medical Association annual clinical meeting

of living people becoming kid-

ney donors.

Less than 10 per cent of kidneys transplanted in the UK come from living donors—usually a close relative or partner willing to give up one of their healthy kidneys for someone in end-stage renal failure who needs dialysis to survive. In Norway, where living donors have formally been incorporated into the national transplant programme, the figure is 40 per cent, and in the US 20 per cent.

The success rate of living donor transplants over that of kidneys removed from a dead donor was "startling", he said. After three years, 85 per cent of kidneys donated by a spouse were still working satisfactorily, and 82 per cent in the case of a parent-to-child transplantation. However, the figure falls to 70 per ceot if organs from a cadaver are used.

The use of a "fresh" kidney from a healthy living person was key to the success and appeared to over-ride tissue match consideration, Sir David said, "I am very struck by these figures. The results are so good. Why shouldn't we be doing more."

He said the risk to the living donor was small: "The Norwegian experience oow extends to some 1,200 cases. None of the doors have died as a result of their donation – although two are [in kidney failure] after an interval of 12 to 15 years."

An estimated 5,000 people in the UK need a new kidney and

An estimated 5,000 people in the UK need a oew kidney and about half will get one. Demand for organs is increasing at about 5 per cent a year.

Liver tissue donations are more problematic because of the significant risk to the donor, Sir David said. Technical advances mean that liver transplants can be carried out using grafts (lobes of the liver) taken from a living person, and a small number have been performed around the world, usually parent to child. "If you have a mother wanting to donate to a child—with the possible risk to her life—then the problems are obvious," he said



DAILY POEM

Autumn Haiku

The chrysanthemums huming – among the flames one flower opening

Toshiro Nomu

Sit watching wild ducks migrating - clasping knees as in urn burials

Aikito Arima

From the pigeon house one feather floating up to the brilliant full moon

Shugyo Takaha

All sick patients switching out their white hands to autumn leaf bonfires

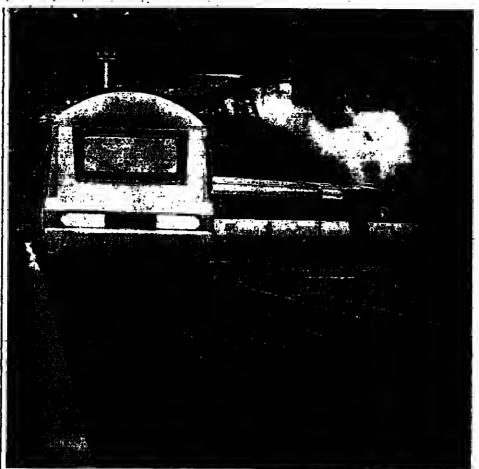
Hakyo Tshida

Autumn in Japan does not coincide exactly with autumn in Europe, writes James Kirkup. The ancient lunar calendar is still respected in rural areas, governing the dates of festivals and religious ceremonies, so that August is already autumn in the traditional world of haiku; Hiroshima Day on 6 Angust falls within this time. The usual imagery of falling leaves, the harvest moon, chrysanthemums and migrating birds, however, is commoo to both oriental and Western cultures. I have chusen traditional haiku that fit both conceptions of antumn.

James Kirkup is president of the British Haiku Association

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All change: A 125, in its new GW livery, pulls in at Bristol Temple Meads Photograph: SWNS

Great Western colours leave fans steaming

CHRISTIAN WOLMAR Transport Correspondent

The expected rush of new logos and train liveries following rail privatisation began in earnest vesterday with Great Western becoming the first of the new companies to abandon all vestiges of its British Rail design.

companies to abandon all vestiges of its British Rail design. In unveiling its new darkgreen and ivery livery, which will disappoint traditionalists who hoped for a return to the line's traditional chocolate and cream, the managing director of Great Western, Brian Scott, confirmed many of the improvements promised when the line was privatised in February.

vatised in February.

Great Western, which operates inter-city services to the West and South Wales, is now run by a consortium controlled by the management-employee buy-out team, with support from a bus company and a merchant bank.

Mr Scott said Great Western had increased the number of trains every weekday from 134



so 139 and promised that a half-hour shuttle service to Bristol and Cardiff would be introduced by the summer of 1999. Two extra train "sets" had been bought, innovations such as family carriages are to be extended, and there will be a new uniform for 1,500 staff. Half the fleet of 38 trains will be sport-

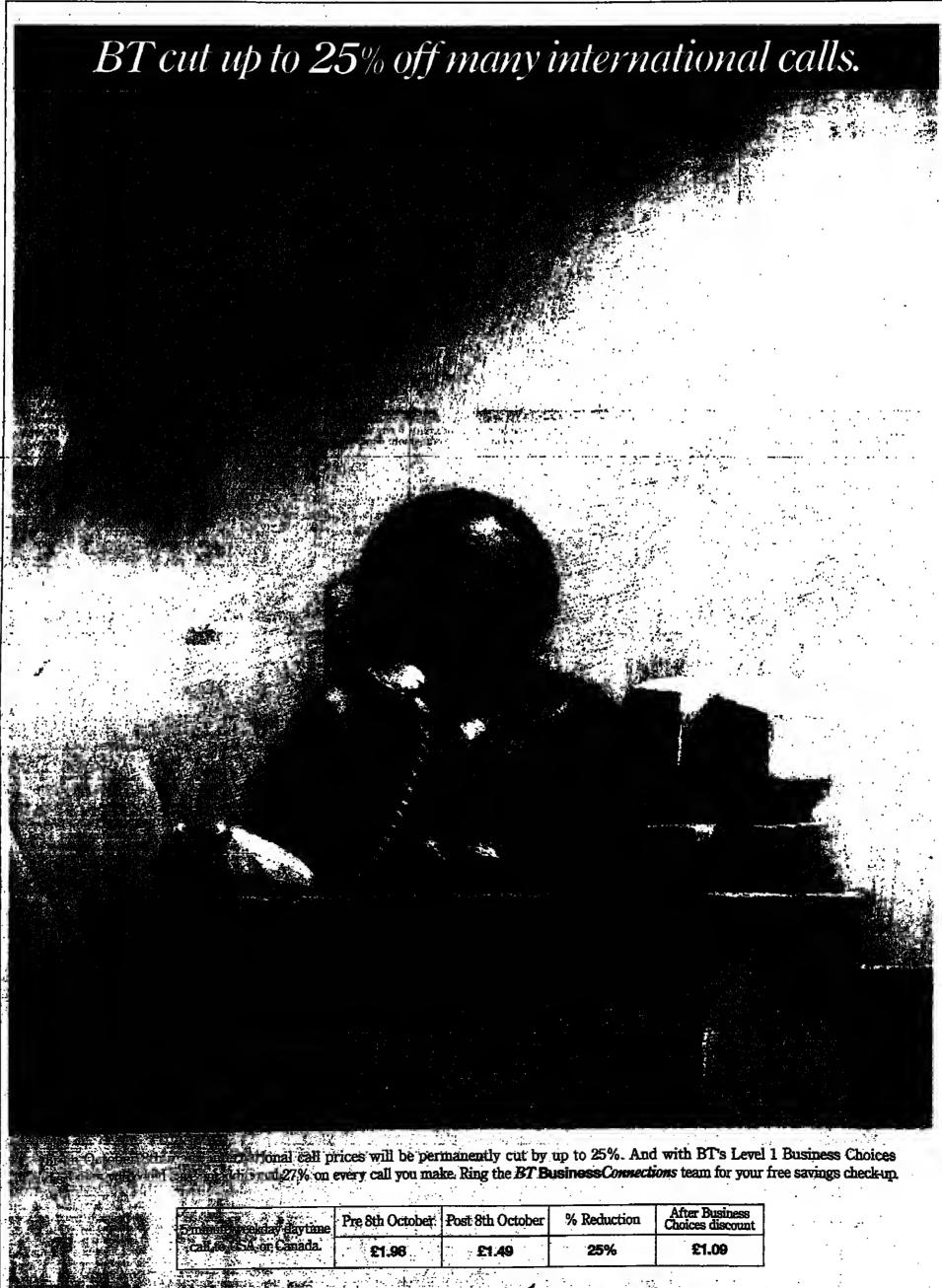
ing new livery by next autumn. While John Watts, the rail

ONES AND ISON INTERNATIONAL DATA CALLS, QUARTERLY SITE FEE PAYABLE ES (EX VAT) FOR BUSINESS CHOICES LEVEL 1.

minister, was on hand to extol the benefits of rail privatisation, Richard George, Great Western's deputy managing director, admitted that many of the improvements might well have

happened under BR.

"In many respects it's not differeot under rail privatisation," he said. "But we can get off our backsides quicker and we have fewer happeneratic constraints."



Unions worried by windfall tax

BARRIE CLEMENT Labour Editor

Unions yesterday warned Gordon Brown that his job-creating "windfall" tax on privatised utilities could put tens of thousands on the dole.

As the shadow Chancellor reaffirmed his intention to introduce the levy in a keynote address to the conference, union leaders urged him to think "long and hard" about its

potential impact.
Mr Brown will have to take tough measures to prevent comdundant in order to pay the tax. cmployee representatives said. Donald McGregor, a na-

Mike Jeram, of the public service union Unison, said he un-derstood why Labour was planning to introduce the tax: I'm as revolted as anyone else dustry, but it will have to be thought through thoroughly.

Ken Jackson, general secretary of the Amalgamated En-gineering and Electrical Union. said there was a real danger that the tax could cost tens of thoupanies making employees re- sands of jobs and that management would simply hlame a

tional official of the GMB general union, said: "It must be a tax on windfall profits, not a tax though the Labour movement is in broad agreement over the

in part at least, he paid back to companies specifically for train-ing and re-training employees.

tries – the original targets of the plan – to other privatised com-panies such as BT and British companies specifically for train-ing and re-training employees. So far, however, Labour has insisted that it would use the adneed for a tax. The Govern-ment is likely to use the union and £10hn hy most estimates -

for a five-year programme to re-

duce unemployment national-

Party officials have indicated

that the tax could extend beyond

the water and electricity indus-

y and in particular to create

50,000 jobs for the under-25s.

'It must be a tax on windfall profits, not a tax on jobs'

comments, however, as ammunition in its argument against the levy.

In a series of private meetings with Mr Brown, senior union officials have argued that revenue raised from the new tax should,

Gas when it could be shown that excess profits were being made. Mr Jackson said the privatised utilities had already suffered massive redundancies and

the tax could make it worse. The power supply industry had shed 40,000 jobs in six years, with National Power reducing its work force from 17,000 to 4,500, he said. Next week. British Energy, the privotised nuclear industry, is expected to announce 2,000 joh

sses in a workforce of 7,000. The engineering union leader said that if current Labour plans went ahead, companies would continue to make special payments to their shareholders, but make cuthacks in jobs. A Labour government would introduce tough regulations to prevent that.
According to industry

sources, PowerGen has sought a deal with Labour in order to avoid the tax. Management indicated to the party that there could be provision for more training in the industry as a quid pro quo.

water companies have indicated they have agreed exemptions with the party, but Labour has since denied such an arrange-

Some regional electricity and

Donald Macintyre, page 15

YESTERDAY AT THE CONFERENCE

MAIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

- · End NHS internal market . Return trusts' assets to NHS
- Ban on tobacco advertising
 Cut £100m from NHS bureaucracy money to be used to clear waiting list for cancer Surgery
- Windfall tax on utilities to pay for training End to "obscene" executive pay Increases

Rejected renationalisation of utilities

QUOTES OF THE DAY "Let us have an end to this talk of divorce." Diana Jeuda, chair of the party and USDAW apparatchik

"John Edmonds of GMB...representing what the Tory party called the 'dirty overall' brigade."

"Next week the Tories will be organising for the election that matters to them - their coming leadership election." Gordon Brown

"For years we have said that no one will believe pre-election Tory tax cuts can last. Suddenly Kenneth Clarke - new Clarke, new honesty - tells us he agrees."

Ayes have it for Harman in NEC

COLIN BROWN Chief Political Correspondent

vote

Tony Blair's leadership was given a boost last night when Harriet Harman was re-elected to the party's ruling National Executive Committee despite attacks on her choice of a grammar school for her son.

Mr Blair also reinforced his grip on the NEC by the election of Hilary Armstrong to replace Joan Lestor in the women's section, and Ian McCartney who beat John Evans for the seat for

the socialist societies. "This is a very good result for the leadership. It is a strong en-dorsement of Tony Blair's leadership. It's all a nel gain," said one Blair source.

Ms Harman's vote fell slightly from 69,029 to 58,112, but she managed to hold onto her seat as a result of the quota for women on the NEC. "I am absolutely delighted." she said. "It is tremendous support from the party to put me back on. It's been a difficult year and I feel I can absolutely put it behind me now.

The Shadow social security secretary ran for the post against the advice of some colleagues who feared it would damage the leadership. She had the satisfaction of proving them wrong, but is still facing a difficult time tomorrow over pensions.

Baroness Castle, the veteran former Cahinet minister, yesterday accused Ms Harman of "inventing" figures to rebut her campaign for the restoration of earnings. Lady Castle told a fringe meeting she would engage in "statistical warfare" to defeat Ms Harman in the vote

at the conference. Lady Castle, 85, accused the party of "fighting dirty" and is refusing to accept the compromise of a commission on pensions accepted by Jack Jones, the pensioners' leader.

man polled more votes than the left-winger, Diane Ahbott, who was re-elected. Ms Abhott saw her support rise from 45,653 to 54,800. The higgest jump was for Robin Cook, seen as a leader of the left in the Shadow Cahinet. who topped the poll with 109,801 votes - 20,000 more

than last year. The results of the elections, carried out by a postal ballot of party members, produced hig cheers for the re-election of the left-wing fireband. Dennis Skinner, and Clare Short, who chaired the session and during the summer had criticised the spin doctors behind

It was incorrectly stated vesterday that Mr Jack Jones had a peerage. We are happy to put the record straight.



the link between pensions and Looking good: Harriet Harman before her success in yesterday's poll. She now faces a challenge from Baroness Castle

New Labour New Technology: Blair's grand design shows they're serious

In the NEC fight, Ms Har-ian polled more votes than the pepper spray broke in one of the zillion X-ray security machines that dot the Winter Gardens. and released a debilitating gas into the heart of the press area isuspicionsly the cloud was at its worst over the Telegraph and FT, but had largely dissipated by the time it gut to The

> This event marked the passage between the pleasant rambling of the Lib Dems a week ago, and New Labour's very serious pursuit of power; for in Brighton there were no pepper sprays, and no X-ray machines. There, bags were cursorily checked by affable members of the local morris dancing team. Here, a division of the North Korean army has been pressed into service by Group 4 or Parcelforce, or whoever, and are

In Brighton, you will recall, they had huilt a little classical temple for Paddy to emerge from. But dominating the Winter Gardens is a Sixties Brezhnevite Memorial to the Heroic Pioneers of Socialist Space Flight, or Solidarity with the Third World.

In the middle is a granitecoloured plinth, sloping up-wards from left to right. But where you would expect to find a copper spntnik or a concrete-cast struggling peasant, there is a microphone and lectern, from which speakers address the toiling masses below.

Even more dramatic, however, is a three-storey high backdrop, standing to either side of the Socialist Speeches Statue, and coloured like a red dawn on a healthy morning. The Moscow 1966 theme is careful-



DAVID A A R O N O V I T C H

the hall with red hanners, declaring the paradise to come. The effect of all this unexpected architectural reference to what used to be called "the achievements of real Socialism has been to disorient some delegates. During yesterday's bealth debate one woman told us that "hospitals are being sold ... and supermarkets are being built in their place". This is a terrifying prospect. Am I going to whip down to the Royal Free

find myself in the canned fruit section of Waitrose? Or was there a teeny bit of exaggeration ?no guiog

To recover from this ap-

palling tale of the Tory present, decided to take a glimpse at the Labour future, by attending a meeting entitled "New Life for Young People", introduced by a smart young woman who said "Hi there". The main speaker was Mo Mowlam, who told us that Young Labour is about Energy, Excilement, Confidence and CD-Roms.

And indeed there was the New Labour CD-Rom, featuring a digitised Mowlam, who was not nearly as attractive as the analogue version. Still the ahility to conjure up parallel Mowlams is a clear victory for British ingenuity. Both Mowlams were agreed on one point: what a pity it was that

agers hadn't gone to the polis in 1992. It was terrible! Something had to be done.

The candidate for Sevenoaks. a tall 14-year-old dressed in clothes so absurdly conventional that, when I was a studeat, they would have marked him out as a leading light in the Monday Club, or the League of Empire Loyalists, wanted to know whether there wasn't a case for compulsory voting as in Australia

Neighbours hardly suggests a revolutionary level of political consciousness amongst Antipodean youth, And, of course, she's right. For many young people voting is like cleaning their bedrooms. And with the polls closing at 10pm quite a few simply don't get up in time

Mo, to her credit, was not keen. She may have noticed that

Gordon Brown, Angela Eagle, Whoever released the guage of Aneurin on the national exect world's press

managing to trans- MP, who against pre- perper anti-rape spray late a modernising dictions, failed to re- at a back entrance message into the lan- place Harnet Harman and choked the

THE CROWD PULLERS ON THE FRINGE Baroness Castle and Harriot Harman in rival pensioner rallies, 80 people each. But there were 100 at a Young Labour meeting addressed by MPs Mo Mowlatti and Judith Church, and 200 at the Country Landowners' Association fringe - an ample free lunch

SPIN OF THE DAY

Peter Mandelson, head of election planning, protesting: "I am not a spin doctor. I don't speak to joornalists."

THE PARTY TO BE SEEN AT Young Fabians' reception with Peter Mandelson, Joint GMB T&G reception sup with the bade union

Lord Hollick, media magnate Cedric "the pig" Brown, ex-British Gas chief, dining in the super-expensive River House Sinead Cusack, actress

barons in the Spanish Hall suite of the Winler Gardens

RAPTUREMETER

Gordon Brown (shadow chancellor) Chris Smith (health)

Margaret Beckett (trade and industry)

49 secs 94 decibels TODAY'S BUSINESS

Min 25secs

Tony Blair delivers leader's speech. Debates on representation of women In the party and Europe Compiled by Stephen Goodwin

Tougher line to be taken on Cullen

COLIN BROWN Chief Political Correspondent

Tony Blair will today harden Labour's policy against handguns by making it clear he would reject the report by Lord Cullen into the Dunblane

killings if it recommends limit-

The party leader will use his keynote speech to give a pledge that a Labour government will han all handguns over .22 calibre sporting weapons from pri-

Lord Cullen has agreed not to deliver his report until after the conference season is over. to avoid it becoming a party political issue. But there is strong speculation that he will recommend a partial ban, allowing clubs to keep high-calibre weapons of the type used by Thomas Hamilton to kill 16 children and a teacher in Dunhlane

before shooting himself. John Major has promised legislation in the next Queen's Speech, and Tory sources have hinted that like Mr Blair, he might be prepared to go further than the Cullen recommendations by seeking a total ban on the weapons. The Home Secretary, Michael Howard, is heretary, Michael Howard, is he-lieved to be sceptical about such a move. Mr Major and Mr

Blair visited the scene of the tragedy together in an act of cross-party solidarity with the parents of the victims. Mr Blait will recall the visit in his speech today, but his intervention will mark Labour out as the party

which is tough on gun laws. Jack Straw, the shadow Hnme Secretary, has led the way in warning that Lahour would han handguns from privalc possession, and clubs. il it was recommended by Cullen. But Mr Blair will go further in leaving little doubt that he would be prepared to overrule the Cullen recommendations, if they fail to propose a total ban

on large magnum guns.
Politically, Labour believes it will also prove a powerful vote winner with the public, and give a sharp edge to Labour's law-and-order policies, in contrast to the Tories who are divided over the issue.

The gun lobby will be in evidence next week at the Tory party conference, pressing the Government not to impose a ban on clubs who keen hand-

have decided to recommend banning handguns from pri-



tion at weekends, having available for a quarted give of \$ 5 5 au. 1 47?

Candidates forced to deny coercion

JOHN RENTOUL

Labour responded to The Independent's report yesterday that parliamentary candidates had been coached in the answers to give to our survey - by ordering them to sign a letter, published in today's newspaper. saving they are not automatons.

At a meeting of candidates

vesterday morning, a letter was

presented by party officials.

and those present were asked

to sign it. When some candi-

dates objected that this exercise

might lend substance to The In-

dependent's claim that they had heen marshalled to give the correct" answers, the official said that signing the letter was voluntary - but that those who decided not to sign had to tele-phone party staff later to give

In the letter, 18 candidates say: *Of course we seek advice from head office on matters of policy, but the answers we give and the opinions we express are our own." One candidate yesterday compared their position to that of Labour MPs: "They are under a three-line whip Why shouldn't we be?"

Gorbachev asked if things

were getting out of hand.'

Kohl's memoirs, page 11

The survey of candidates in Labour's winnable seats re-vealed that the official "line" was that the trade union block vote should he cut below the present 50 per cent share of party conference - a line given internal hriefings for candidates.

The Independent interviewed 42 of the 87 candidates in the marginal scats Labour believes it must win to form a secure government. Of these, 38 said the union block vote should be cut

In another development to-day, supporters of the Labour leuder. Tony Blair, are to urge the party to make another dramatic series of internal reforms. including cutting the trade union link and deciding policy by ballots of party members. The party's annual confer-

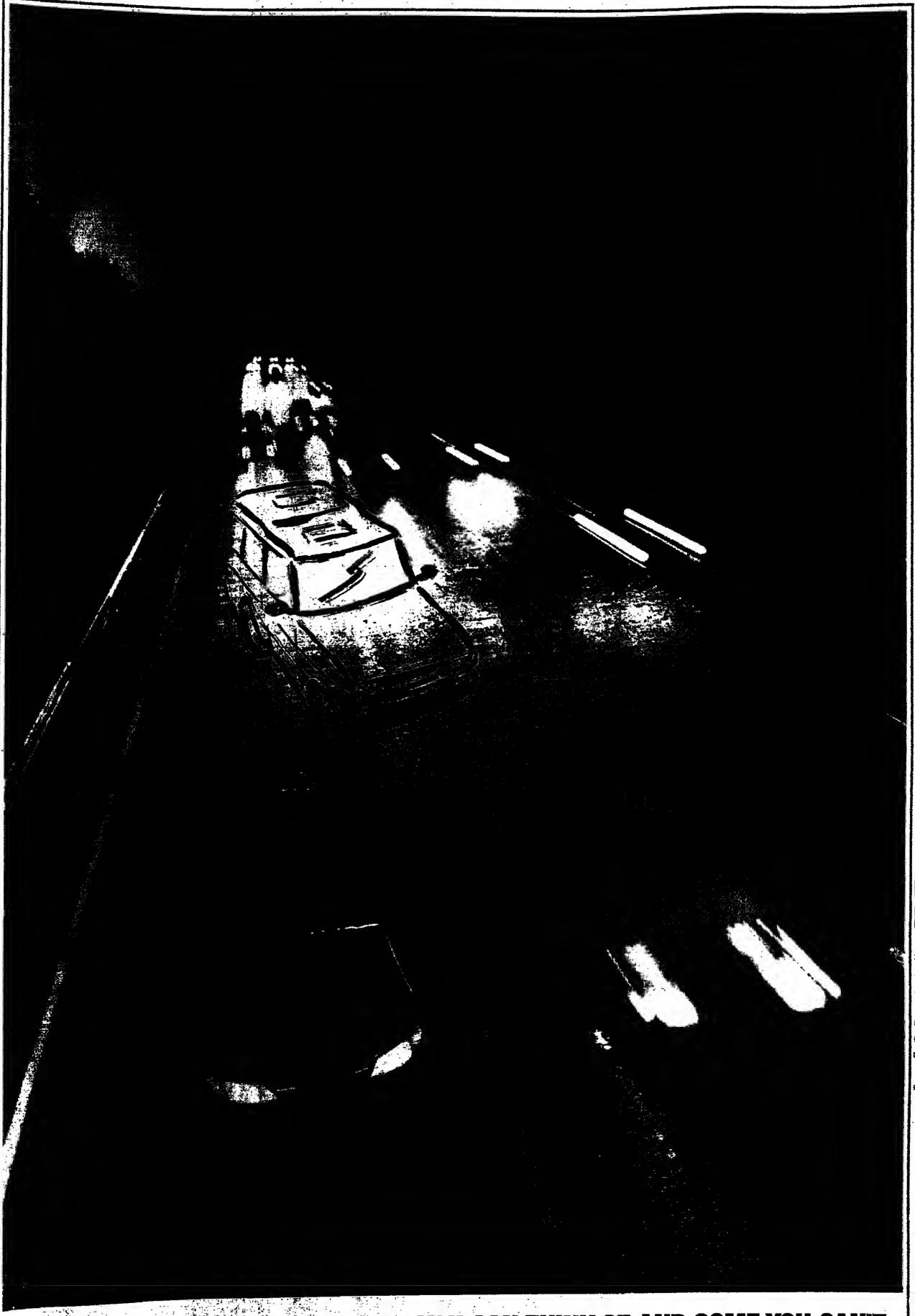
ence should be turned into a "showcase" for policies decided by the leadership after consultation with party memhers, according to the Labour Co-ordinating Committee (LCC), the leading pressure group of party "modernisers". In a report published today,

the group says: "Party conference has rightly ceased to be the annual policy-making forum And it says Labour should learn from the "poll lift which successful conventions gave the

Democrats this summer in America". The group, which boasts Mr Blair as a memher, argues for an end to policy-making hy passing resolutions, and for the abolition of a layer of local party



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Tougher EU cuts about to bite

London

European Unioo governments pressed ahead with strict austerity measures yesterday, determined to resist increasing opposition from their workforces and to fulfil the conditions for launching a single currency in 1999. Governments in Belgium, France, Germany, Italy and Spain have all introduced, or are about to introduce, some of the toughest spending cuts in decades in orier to reduce their hudget deficits to the level required to participate in European economic and monetary union

Spain's conservative governnent yesterday presented to parliament the most restrictive udget sioce the return of

HRISTOPHER BELLAMY

3ritain will today demand the

uropean Union takes mter-

ational action against Buroa's military regime, after

urther arrests and repressive

actics at the weekend which

hreatened to destroy the counry's fragile democracy move-neot. The ruling military overnment banned the oppo-

ition leader and Nobel peace rize winner, Aung San Suu Kyi, om giving a speech to a three-

ay opposition party congress.

he authorities also cut off ac-

ess to her Rangoon home and

The EU's "political directors"

senior foreign ministry officials om the 15 member countries –

ill meet today in Brussels. The

oreign Office declined to say

hat precise action the EU

tight take, "In trade terms we

nly sell about £15m worth of

uff to Burma a year," one For-

ign Office source said. Instead,

ritain hopes to stimulate further

ressure from EU members and, love importantly from Burma's

Diplomatic sources yesterday

ud they doubted wbether the

urmese government would de-

un Ms Suu Kyi, who was re-

ased from six years of house

rrest in July 1995, but would

y to marginalise her and re-rict media coverage. The

urmese government, run by

ie State Law and Order

estoratioo Council (Slore).

ud it had detained 109 mem-

gional neighbours.

rrested about 500 people.

Strike protests as wages are frozen ready for single currency

will be partly because of unusual accounting manoeuvres such as the transfer of 37.5bn francs

(£4.8bn) to state coffers in re-

turn for the government's tak-ing over of certain pension habilities from France Télé-

com. This sum represents about

0.5 per cent of French GDP,

The European Commission

democracy in 1975. Despite an unemployment rate of 22.3 per cent, all areas of state spending except health, pensions and regional transfers are to be cut or kept at current levels, and the wages of millions of state em-

ployees are being frozen.
Thousands of public sector workers, including those from two police unions, whistled and chanted slogans outside the Economy Ministry in Madrid and even tipped a inrryload of ice at the ministry's entrance in protest. The unions plan a national "day of actioo" on 15 October and more protests if their complaints are oot addressed. However, the Prime Minister, Jose Maria Aznar, insists that nothing will deflect him from his

goal of making Spain one of the founders of the euro, as the sin-

League of Democracy as part of an operation intended to pre-

vent the party's weekend meet-

It set up police checkpoints on all roads leading to Ms Suu Kyr's home in University Av-

enue, Rangoon, where the

meeting was due to be held, and stopped anyone using the road

from Friday morning onwards. Although the checkpoints were

due to come down on Sunday,

they were still there yesterday.

A number of people heading for

the meeting, beld to celebrate the eighth anniversary of the

NLD's foundation, were de-tained briefly. About 500 NLD

members have been beld since

Thursday, and a group of for-

eign journalists were detained

at their hotel in the street over-

necessary to take further inter-

national action against the Slorc.

We will be proposing possible measures to EU partners," the

Foreign Office said yesterday.

preventing Aung San Suu Kyi

from delivering her weekend

speech. Restrictions on freedom

of speech and assembly are a

breach of basic buman rights."

victory in the 1990 geoeral elec-

tion but the military government

never recognised the results. The

most recent crackdown on the

oppositioo took place in May,

when about 260 activists were ar-

rested. Most were released hut

a score were convicted and giv-

The NLD woo a resounding

"We deplore Slore actions

"The UK believes it will be

looking Ms Suu Kyi's house.

ing from taking place.

Britain calls

for pressure

on Burma

gle currency is to be called. He suspects that, if Spain is not there at the start, it will pay a heavy price in terms of economic prosperity and political influence in Europe.

In France, where a big civil service strike has been called for

17 October, tens of thousands of teachers stopped work for one day yesterday in protest at government plans to abolish about 2,300 jobs in the education system and forced the closure of hundreds of schools. As in Spain, President Jacques Chirac's Gaullist-led

making it more likely that government is slashing state spending to reduce the French France will be close enough to the 3 per cent deficit target to hudget deficit to 3 per cent of qualify for EMU. Gross Domestic Product in 1997. This would enable France has signalled it will approve the manoeuvre, not least because EMU is uothinkahle unless to meet the Maastricht treaty's criteria for participating in

France takes part. Yet it seems clear from Italy's 1997 budget that Rome would like to per-form similar sleights of hand in say it is too deflationary a pol-icy when unemployment is 12.6 per cent and the economy this year is expected barely to grow order to be in the single curat all. if the government achieves its deficit target, it rency from the start.

That bothers those central

hankers and finance ministers who oppose the inclusion in EMU of countries with a track record of currency instability and fiscal extravagance. On the nther hand, as the former editor of La Repubblica. Engenio Scalfari, recently ooted, the political implications of Italy's exclusion from the single curreocy could be enormous.

'It's clear that the outcome would be catastrophic for Italy," he said. Among the possible consequences would be the collapse of the lira, soaring inflation, and a more concerted

push by the regionalist North-ern League to force the secus-sion of rich northern Italy from the poorer south. Italy has so far largely escaped the social unrest evident in other hudget-cutting European countries, but in Germany more than 5,000 Mercedes-Benz workers went oo strike vesterday in a growing dispute over government cuts in sick pay entitlement. The giant

engineering workers' union, 1G

Metall, has called for a full day

of protest on 24 October. Chancellor Helmut Kohl's government has already secored the passage of key parts of its 1997 ansterity programme, but at the cost of rising trade union discontent. Belgium's Christian Socialist Prime Minister. Jean-Luc Dehaene, has gone to the extremes of acquiring special powers to legis-late by decree on the budget so that Belgium can join the euro.

significant shorts

Swiss vote for South Korean spotlight on war wealth

Switzerland's lower house of parliament voted yesterday for a sweeping historical study of Swiss financial deal-ings with Nazi Germany and the fale of Jewish wealth deposited before, during and after the Second World War. The National Council en-

dorsed a decree put forward by the cabinet, sending the measure for final approval to the upper chamber of parlia-ment. The 162-0 vote showed support across the political spectrum and indicated the final approval of the study was likely. Reuter - Berne

Soldier denies killing Palme

A former Rhodesian specialforces soldier named as the assassin of the Swedish prime minister Olof Palme dis-

The South African Dirk Coetzee, self-confessed leader of an apartheid hit squad, told Swedish journalists that he had heard that Ant White carried out the murder of Palme in Stockholm in 1986. Mr White said. in Mozambique, that he was not involved, and added that he had no idea why Coetzee. whom he said he had never

Serb, Croat and Muslim members of Bosnia's newlyelected collective presidency arrived at the Saraj motel in Sarajevo for their first session since they were elected earli-er this month, officials said. Serb leader Momeilo Krajisnik entered the city from the Serb's mountain village headquarters of Pale for the first time since war erupted in April 1992. Renter - Sarajevo

Killer denies massacre

Amid one of the tightest se-curity operations Australia has seen, Martin Bryant, the 29-year-old man charged over the world's biggest mas shooting by a lone gunman, appeared in court to plead not guilty to the murders of 35 people at Port Arthur,

Bryant appeared in the Tasmanian Supreme Court surrounded by police and separated from the gallery, where survivors sat with the bullet-proof glass. He will stand trial on 19 November. Robert Milliken - Sydney

troops kill infiltrator

Middle F.

South Korean troops have killed another North Korean infiltrator, bringing to 22 the cumber of Pyongrang agents shot dead after coming ashore from a submarine on 15 September, the defence ministry said.

A spokesman also said that a South Korean soldier, 21-year-old sergeant Han Des-sung, was gunned down by colleagues who mistook him for an infiltrator. Five South ern soldiers and one civilian have been killed during the manhunt for the estimated 26 intruders. Reiter - Seed

missed the allegation as "oebulous and far-fetched".

met, had spread the allega-tions. Reuter - Johannesburg

first meeting

Tasmania, last April. families of those who died, by

£84m Cork cocaine haul

Gardai said they had seized the largest cocaine haul in the history of Ireland over the weekend. The drugs, with a street

value of np to £84m, were found in a converted Norwegian trawler sheltering from heavy gales in a port in Cork, southern Ireland; the winds had forced the Sea Mist from its route between Venezuela and northern Europe. Four people are being beld.

Rester - Dublin

Kenya's death dungeons

Bosnia leaders

Kenya's prisons are among
the most "cruel, inhuman
and horrifying in the world",
according to a report just by the Kenya Human Rights

Commission.

Describing the country's jails as "dungeons of death", the report. A Death Sentence: Prison Conditions in Kenya, tells of overcrowded cells infested with lice, fleas, bedbugs and mosquitoes as well as of leaking roofs and : cracked floors smeared with human waste. Citing former inmates, it says the sick are sometimes chained on hospital beds for days with dead prisoners beside them, Some inmates are said to be forced by bunger and lack of water into eating their own waste and washing in their own urioe. David Orr - Nairobi

(基)的分类 方 Sun sets on Madras

India's southern state of Tamil Nadu has changed the name of its capital city from Madras to Chennai with effect from yesterday, the Unit-ed News of India (UNI) said. The city gave up its name, acquired during British colonial rule, to return to an ancient title through a Bill passed by the state assembly last month. Reuter - New Delhi

government's plans to cut 2,300 jobs. The action closed hundreds of schools across the country Photograph: Reuter ers of Ms Suu Kyi's National eo long prisoo seotences. Who speaks for God, deep in the heart of politics?

One voice: Several thousand striking teachers marching through Paris yesterday to protest against the

ustin — Here in the Bible Belt s hard sometimes to tell who

speaking for God.
Take, for example, last Sunny's service at Great Hills Bapst Church, which seats 3,600. his is a large church, eveo by ras standards, although hig-r ones exist in Houstoo and allas. The 150-member choir nd 30-piece hrass and string and rocked and rolled through veral hymns. In an illuminatpool below a huge white oss, four members of the conegation were baptised by mersion, and the audience plauded each dunk. The lionaned pastor, Harold O'Chesr. stepped in and out from hind his Plexiglass pulpit, outing and whispering into his icrophone, punching the air or raising a well-shod foot from the floor for emphasis. Four video cameras whirred away.

Before the sermon, the pastor introduced a visitor. "It's election time," he began, pick-ing his words carefully. "Our church cannot eodorse a candidate for office, but I'd like to introduce ooe." Teresa Doggett, Republican candidate for Congress, and her husband, stood

and were applauded.
The Rev O'Chester was careful to avoid partisan politicking because his church, for tax purposes, is non-profit. As such, it can legally educate voters, hut cannot co-ordinate that activity with the campaigns of specific candidates. This is a touchy point hecause Great Hills Church in the past has distrib**TEXAS TALES**

Elaine Davenport charts her state's progress during the run-up to the US elections

> uted voter guides prepared by the Christian Coalition, a national group of religious conservatives founded by the evangelist Pat Robertson. On 30 July,

the bipartisan Federal Elec-tion Commission soed the Christian Coalitioo for violating federal election rules, accusing it of illegally using voter guides, mailings and telephone banks to back Republican candidates

in 1990, 1992 and 1994. This year, Jeff Fisher, executive director of the Texas Christian Coalition, says his group will go ahead with the planned distribution through 3.500 churches of four million voter guides for the 5 November general election, despite the federal lawsuit.

Perhaps it is Mr Fisher who is speaking for God, or perhaps it is the 300 moderate Protestant, Jewish and Catholic clergy and citizens who met in Austin last weekend to counter the con-

servative tide. They called on religious leaders throughout the state to block the Christian Coalition from using their churches for partisan politics. The moderate clergy say they have spent too much of the

1990s sitting oo their hands while their conservative counterparts organised a formidable grass-roots political movement. They do not want to silence the Christian Coalition, they say, but to imitate its organisational prowess to spread their own message that religious ethics and compassion should infloeoce, but not control, political issues. "I am a Christian and the Christian Coalition does not represent me or my congrega-tion or the God we worship," said Bobbi Kaye Jooes, associ-

ate pastor of the First United Methodist Church in Austin. These politically minded religious groups are making Texas a prime battleground in the heated debate over public education. Nationally, there is discussion of eliminating the Department of Education, in order to put all decisions about schools squarely in local hands. In Texas, the 15 members of the State Board of Education which approves textbooks and works with the legislature to set school policy - face a tumult-uous few years of high-visibility, partisan politics. Eight of the 15

unpaid places on the Board are up for grabs oo 5 November. The issues they will confront include school prayer; whether to use public tax dollars to pay

gious schools through vouchers; sex educatioo; bilingual education; parental rights; multicultural education; and, evolution versus creationism as science all meaty matters which would

tax the wisdom of Solomon. In 1993-94, there were attempts in 16 Texas school districts to censor books, according to People for the American Way, a national group which collects information on censorship and oo leaders and groups who represent the reli-gious right. A well-known case of so-called "stealth" candidates taking over a local school board occurred in Round Rock, 15 miles north of Austin. Stealth candidates are so named be-

political affiliation until after an electioo.

Conservatives gained cootrol of the Round Rock school board in 1993 and fired the superintendent during their attempt to censor hooks and chaoge long-standing policies. By 1995, the board was back in the hands of moderates such as Cindy Rose, who had become an activist. "We woke up and realised we had been blindsided, she said. "All they needed to take over ... were the votes from two

local conservative churches. Whoever is speaking for God these days, religion and politics in Texas seem to be bedding down together in a way that has the old theory of separation of church and state looking for new guidelines.

New rates 47



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Mandela turns on hostile media

Johannesburg

In the end, months of grass-roots rallies did oot save him. Bantu Holomisa, a former ANC deputy minister, was yes-terday expelled by his party af-ter accusing senior members, including Presideot Nelsoo Mandela and Deputy President Thabo Mbeki, nf accepting favnurs and pulitical donations from the casino magnate Sol Kerzner. President Mandela headed

the 70-strong committee which showed the door in Mr Holomisa, who topped party elec-tions in 1994. Mr Hulomisa's nriginal sin was that in a testimony to the Truth and Reconciliation Commissioo (TRC), he meotioned that the public eo-terprises minister, Stella Sigcau, had received a 50,000 rand cut in a Kerzner hribe.

Holomisa for breaking ranks. When he refused to apologise to Ms Sigcau, President Man-dela dismissed him as a tourism minister, despite the TRC's complaints that this would un-

dermined its credibility.

Mr Holomisa's allegations concerning ANC corruption grew, until he eventually claimed that President Mandela himself had discussed with him accepting a 2 millinn-rand party donation from Mr Kerzner in return for dropping bribery charges against him.

For many in the media, the Hulumisa case is another sign that the ANC cannot handle dissent and that its president is more autocratic than his cuddly international image would sug-gest. This weekend President Mandela made the latest in a series of attacks on journalists. His

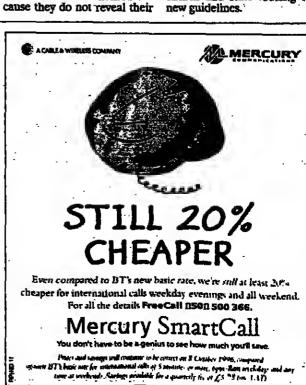
Ms Sigcau has oever denied target was senior black jour-it. But the ANC was furious with oalists, but a few weeks ago he accused the media of racism over its legitimate pursuit of a minister who wasted 10 million rand of Aids funding on an educational play.

"The current trend is very worrying," said Khulu Sibiya, editor of City Press, yesterday. "The handling of recent political cootroversies and the hostility to the press do oot augur well." Last week the President suramaned him to ANC headquarters for a dressing down about an editorial which criti-cised the President's "unnecessary" interference in the stomachs begging for mercy" controversial selection of a new they still had to be prevented chief justice.

"I have never seen him so furious," said Mr Sibiya, who has also criticised the ANC handling of Holomisa and the Aids scandal Mr Sihiya says the ANC is ignoring the fact that most City wards the ANC.

The difficulty of meeting the public's unrealistic expectations may help explain President Mandela's hostility to the press and his intolerance towards those who break party ranks. At the weekend he warned hlack journalists who criticised the government for failing to improve social conditions while focussing too hard on racial reconciliation, that they failed to appreciate what had happened io the country. They were wrong to think that whites were lying oo their from running into the arms of

the right wing.
The President warned there were still problems which could lead to a blood bath in South Africa if they were not handled with care.



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international

Middle East showdown: White House firm in face of Arab leaders' request to delay talks

US steps up pressure for crisis summit

PATRICK COCKBURN

Dismissing Arab demands for a postponement, the United States yesterday pressed ahead with plans to convene an emergency Middle East summit to try to restore peace between Israel and the Palestinians. Mike McCurry, the White House spokesman, said: "We expect the meeting that the President announced yesterday to proceed."

Earlier, Yasser Arafat, the Palestine Liberation Organisation chairman, and President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, asked President Bill Clinton to postpone the summit set for tomorrow in Washington. Binyamin Netanyahn, the Israeli Prime Minister, and King Hussem of Jordan have already left for the US. Later, after American officials said there was no question of delaying the summit, Palestinian officials said that Mr Arafat would go to Washingtin in any case. US officials said last night President Muharak would not be coming.

The request for a delay came because both Mr Arafat and President Mubarak said they wanted assurances that the summit would produce something. Mr Netanyahu has said he will not discuss the closure of the tunnel in the old city of Jerusalem, which sparked off the fighting last week in which 59 the presidential election, Mr

tinians say they want a date for diplomatic failure, but he will the Israeli redeployment from also not want to alienate Jew-Hehron, now under heavy cur- ish American voters by putting few, which Mr Netanyahu has pressure on Mr Netanyahu. long delayed. Mr Arafat will first go first to Luxembourg for a between Israeli, Palestinian, US meeting with European Union and UN officials failed to proforeign ministers before con- duce any agreement on what tinuing to Washington.

the US, called for non-stop ne-gotiations with the Palestinians the Palestinian spokesman, said: "The idea was to agree on most on withdrawal from Hebron. The offer is likely to be treated with suspicion by the Palestinians because the terms of an Israeli redeployment were signed last year; they want the accord carried out as agreed.

Asked if Mr Clinton had any commitments that the Washington meeting would produce substantive results, Mr Mc-



Refusal: Hosni Mubarak is not to attend the summit

Curry said: "These talks are occurring without preconditions. But based on the President's conversations yesterday, he hopes and expects the leaders to arrive in a frame of mind to make progress on the issues that Palestinians and 14 Israelis died. Clinton will be eager to avoid Both the US and the Pales- anything which looks like a

would be on the agenda in Mr Netanyahu, on his way to Washington. Marwan Kanafani,

"The idea was to agree on most everything here before going to Washington, but no conclusions were reached." He said the meeting between Abu Mazen for the PLO, Dore Gold for Mr Netanyahu, and Martin Indyk, the US ambassador, was a failure.

Mr Kanafani said: "The Israelis refused to agree on any political issues. They wanted to discuss security issues. They are not serious and Arafat does not want to meet Netanyahu just for

Meanwhile, Israeli commanders in the Gaza Strip were quoted as saying yesterday that indiscriminate shooting by Jewsh settlers and Israeli configurations. ish settlers and Israeli soldiers ignited the bloodiest day of clashes in the strip last week. At least 21 people were killed and 350 wounded. The daily Haaretz said that during a tour of the Gaza settlements on Sunday, General Ariel Sharon, the Israeli Infrastructure Minister, was told by army commanders that shonting by settlers and Is-raeli soldiers had set events

spinning out of control.

The commander of the Kfar Darom sector, Lieutenant Colonel Avi, told General Sharon: "An assembly began and stonethrowing, and there was a demonstration and attempts to disperse it by Assaf [the Israeli officer in charge] and also by the Palestinian police. The demonstrators got too close to the [set-tlement's] fence and shots were fired in the air. That pretty much set the sector on fire."

The newspaper quoted Brigadier General Yitzhak Eitan as adding: "This place is what set the whole strip on fire in the morning." Mr Netanyahu has accused Mr Arafat and the Palestinian police of opening



Ancient pathway: An orthodox Jewish family make their way through the disputed archeological tunnel recently reopened in the old city of Jerusalem Photograph; AP

had been invited to the planned

Washington summit.

Europe has meagre offerings for Arafat

SARAH HELM BRUSSELS.

Might the Europeans now step forward to save the Oslo accords? Might the Europeans, at last, seize the initiative from fumbling Washington, and attempt to steer the Middle East back on to the path of reason?

Last night Yasser Arafat flew into Luxembourg to find out. In a surprise move, the European foreign ministers invited him for emergency talks on the eve of the proposed Middle East sun-mit in Washington.

For Mr Arafat the purpose of the meeting was clear. Both the Europeans and the US are "brokers" in the peace process. Brokers are expected to use influence to ensure the peace-making parties keep to their agreement. Since the cruption of violence last week, it must now he clearer than ever to Mr Arafat that the US can no longer be deemed an "honest broker".



spirit and word of the Oslo accords are plain for all to see, yet Bill Clinton shows no sign of willingness to pressure Mr Ne-tanyahu. In the run-up to the presidential election, Mr Clinton is unlikely to change his tune. Mr Arafat came to Lunembourg, therefore, to try to persuade the Europeans to do what Mr Clinton refuses to do - to stand up to the Israeli Prime Minister. The Europeans have potentially a large degree of influence

Israel's breaches of both the over the Israeli government and there are many levers the EU could pull, should they so wish. For the EU, the benefits of active intervention in the Middle East peace process might seem self-evident, with stability on Europe's Mediterranean ring of paramount importance. The EU last year signed a far-reaching trade as-sociation deal with Israel, offering wide access to EU markets and EU funding for re-search and development. Israel

greatly values its image in Europe and Europe is its biggest trading partner. Under the previous Labour government of Yitzak Rabin, Israeli officials spoke in starry-eyed terms of Isracl's future as "European" rather than Middle Eastern.

Many in the Labour foreign ministry even spoke of the day when Israel might join the EU. While the Likud government may be less enamoured of its European neighbours, even Mr Netanyahu understands the enormous value of Israel's ties with the Europeans. Despite such influence, how-

ever, European political leaders rarely speak on matters concerning Israel without con-sulting Washington. For the Europeans, even the purpose of last night's meeting with Mr Arafat was distinctly unclear. At first, it appeared that the

EU invitation was issued to

Mr Arafat largely out of pique, because no European leader

The so-called "troika" of European foreign ministers, Lamberto Dini of Italy, Dick Spring of Ireland and Hans van Mier-

loof the Netherlands, appeared to have nothing of substance to offer Mr Arafat other than the familiar incantations of support for the peace process. Given the difficulties that the 15 always have in reaching agreement on sensitive questions of diplomacy, it has often been easier for the EU to pass the Middle East buck to the US. Occasionally, the Europeans have tried to take a clear political stance, but usually the member states end up squabbling. For example, the troiks is currently debating whether to visit the Palestinian leadership in Orient House, in Arah East Jerusalem next month. Orient House is the

symbolic Palestinian "govern-ment" huilding in which Israel

The European's have, throughout the peace process, tried to salve their consciences over the Middle East by digging deep into their pockets rather

than raising their heads above the political parapet. The Europeans are the higgest aid donors to the Palestinians. In 1993 the EU promised 50 mil-lion Ecu to the Palestinian authority each year for four years. It was the Europeans who largely financed and arranged the Palestinian elections last year.

The best Mr Arafat can hope for from the European "hrokers" is probably statements of good intent and further promis-es of aid. On Tuesday, EU foreign ministers will agree a mandate for a trade and co-operation agreement with the Palestinians. Such a deal, how-ever, falls well short of what Mr Arafat came to ask for. He needs the Europeans to use

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It is a summit on which the future of what is still referred to as the Middle East peace process may well depend. Yet 24 hours before its advertised opening, no one was quite sure who would attend, how long it would last, how the talks will be arranged, what topics they would deal with; even whether the two protagonists would ac-

RUPERT CORNWELL

Washington

tually meet face to face. Such was the situation here on the eve of the most vital peace-making initiative of the Clinton Presidency, forced upon him in the midst of a presidential election campaign, just as he was about to prepare for an important televised debate with his Republican opponent, Boh Dole. In fact the two events - the desperate, improvised bid for a truce between Israelis and Palestinians and the choreographed debate over whose format negotiators jockeyed for weeks - have become mex-

tricably entwined. This was supposed to have been a quiet week by Bill Clinton's hectic standards, a little campaigning, signature of spending Bills for the fiscal year 1997 and then, on Thursday, a three-day retreat to ready him-

self for the confrontation with first days of the crisis, the US had Mr Dole. Those plans now hang to act, whatever the risks, to pre-by a thread. Dismissing with serve its own credibility. most undiplomatic brusqueness ligible. The conventional wis-Yasser Arafat's request for a postponement, the White House dom is that the President has insisted the summit would be held today and Wednesday. "We expect the meeting to proceed as the President announced," his

What Mr McCurry did not dwell on were Mr Clinton's plans should the discussions get bogged down, or if US mediation at the highest levels proves the only means of moving them forward. Would he depart none the less with his debate briefing books, even at the risk of a spectacular foreign policy failure that could place him on the defensive with Mr to have done his best.

spokesman, Mike McCurry,

Dole? The answer is, surely not. Be it domestic or foreign affairs, no one calculates the political consequences of a given move more carefully than Mr Clinton. Yet in this instance he had little choice. In his own words on Sunday, the violence in Israel was "spinning out of control", threatening not merely to set back, but to destroy the entire "peace process" pursued since 1991 by a Republican and a Democratic president alike. Virtually ignored during the And these risks are not neg

little to lose: a successful outcome would be a colossal boom to his campaign, projecting him as a president using the weight of his office, dispelling some fresh doubts over his competence in foreign policy. Even breakdown need not be disastrous: the American electorate have watched enough presidents grapple with the Middle East to understand that even a combination of Bismark. Machiavelli and Marcus Aurelius would find the problem intractable. Like his predecessors. Mr Clinton will be judged

The real danger lies in the US being snubbed, or being shown to have no influence on proceedings. Hence its blunmess as Mr Arafat hesitated. Hence ton the ill-concealed disappointment that Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak will not be coming, failing any guarantee that Is-rael would take any serious step towards the Palestinians, either on the archaeological tunnel by the al-Aqsa mosque, or on the wider issue of implementing the



Crisis in Afghanistan: Fundamentalist militia could bring stability to the region and open up trade routes for Pakistan



Bhutto denies aiding Taliban's advance

RAYMOND WHITAKER

Benazir Bhutto denied yesterday that her government had helped the Taliban militia to seize control of neighbouring Afghanistan, and said she hoped to exercise a moderating influence" on the funda-mentalist movement, which has imposed sharia (strict Muslim aw) and forced women into pur-

Minister said, "if a government emerges in Afghanistan, we have to work with it". When the Taliban closes pris' schools, I am unhappy," Ms Bhutto said at a lecture in London. This was conveyed to them, and I was told some of the schools had reopened." Although Pakistan recognised the

government barely a day after it captured the capital, Kabul, last week, she insisted her government had remained neutral, and was still waiting to see whether the Taliban could assert control over the whole country. Ms Bhutto, who has power-ful opposition from fundamen-

talists at home, admitted that the Taliban was a "militant" organisatioo whose effect on women and on the more liberal atmosphere in Pakistan would have to be considered. a tribal movement, or whether it is an expression of people's desire for peace," she said. "We have to let Afghans de-

"We will find out whether it is termine their own future, whether it is good, bad or ugly."

brokered by the United Nations and the West, but international attention had been diverted by other conflicts, leaving a vacuum which the Taliban had filled. "Let us oow see if they can bring peace to Afghanistan for the first time since 1979."

Pakistan has long wanted to open trade routes across Afghanistan to the developing economies of central Asia, and suspicions remain that Islamabad's Inter Services Iotelli-gence organisation, which frequently operates outside civilian control, backed the Taliban. Ms Bhutto said there would be economic benefits if the region were more stable, but added: "We didn't expect the Taliban to take over Kabul."

In many ways, the Taliban night be more acceptable to Islamabad and even to Washington than they are to the majority of Afghans. With unseemly haste, the Chuton administration has also given support, even as the corpse of former dictator, Najibullah – supposedly under

UN protection – was still dan-gling from a Kabul lamppost. Diplomats in Islamabad and New Delhi said that the Americans are not displeased by the Taliban conquest of Kabul, de-spite the refusal of the militia's ruling six-man council to behave according to the minimum ac-

ceptable norms on human rights. Washington views the Taliban as useful in preventing the spread of Islamic revolution from oeighbouring Iran, since of Iran to be little better than heretics. Washington also looks upon the Taliban as useful al-lies in the international war against drugs.

chancellor's

also counting on the 20,000-strong Taliban militia to deal harshly with the various Islamic revolutionaries and terrorists, from the Middle East, the Gulf and even Chechnya, who have been using Afghanistan as n

sanctuary and arms bazaar. Yet the Taliban may prove to be dangerous partners for the West and for Pakistan. Instead of containing Iran's thrust into South and Central Asia, the Taliban's extremism may provoke it. A large Shia community lives in Kabul and central Afghanistan, and Iran is worried that these Shia might fall uoder the Taliban's persecution. If this happens, Iranian forces might be drawn militarily into Afghanistan, Pakistan, which supports the Taliban, might then spring into the fray.

Several opium lords were executed by the Taliban, but drug enforcement experts claim that last year Afghanistan flooded the European, US and Eastern markets with over \$75ba (£48bn) of heroin. Much of this poppy was harvested in fields under the Taliban's supposed commar d.

The Taliban believe in wielding the sword - or Stinger missile - in Allah's name. India is worried that the Taliban might sooo export its holy warriors

Kabul's new lords belong to the Defeated army pursued into the mountains

Kabul - Afghanistan's Islamic ernment, which he also opposed. ward in relentless pursuit of the country's former government forces yesterday, claiming victory over key towns and a province north of the capital Kabul. The Taliban now control

threequarters of the country. Taliban fighters said they had bottled up the former defence minister, Ahmad Shah Masood, in his Panisher valley stronghold following a twoprooged advance overnight. The militia was halted at the vilage of Golbahar at the mooth of the narrow gorge leading into Panjsher, fighters said. They were awaiting orders oo whether to assault the valley -

one of the few areas still under the control of the government. A second prong pushed north from Jabal os-Siraj, up the Salang highway that runs oorth from Kabul into central Asia, where they confronted the northern warlord, Abdul Rashid Dostum. General Dostum has moved significant forces into the area oorth of the Salang tunnel, which crosses the Hindu Kush mountain range.

The Taliban were reported to have asked the forces of Geoeral Dostum to allow their fight-ers passage into the oorth, but the demand was said to have been rejected. It was not immediately clear whether the Taliban wanted the passage through the Salang Highway to attack some northern provinces still held by forces loyal to the ousted president, Burhanuddin Rabbani, or wanted to

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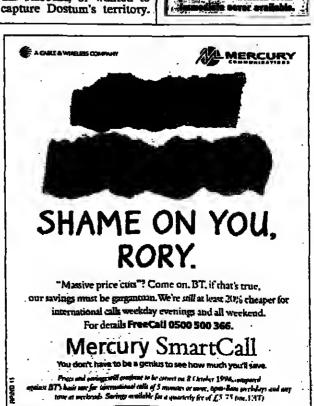
without it.

ALISTAIR LYON Dostum has so far stayed away from the fighting between Tal-iban and the former Kabul gov-

Taliban sources said that Kapisa province to the east of Golbahar and its capital Mahmud-i-Raqi had also fallen to the militia yesterday. Mohammad Gul, deputy Taliban com-mander of a military barracks oear Kabul, said: "We intend to capture all the former government areas, including the Salang tunnel and the Pan jsher," he said.

It was oot immediately clear how easy it would be for the Taliban to capture the valley, held by Masood's men throughout the 1980s against several major assaults by Soviet troops back-ing Kabul's then-communist government. The speed of his retreat – from Kabul to the valley in just three days—seemed to have dismayed the Tajik people he leads. "We just don't know what's happening. We doo't know whether Masood has a plan or is just running, said one ethnic Tajik shop







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Chancellor's memoirs: He thanks Gorbachev, but says British PM's prejudices made her an obstruction to German unity

Kohl kept the peace while Wall tumbled

IMRE KARACS

he received an agitated telephone call from one of his aides in Bonn. "Herr Chancel-lor, the Wall is falling at this very moment," stammered Eduard Ackermann, at the other end of the line. "Are you sure, Ackermann?" asked the Chancellor.

It was an uncharacteristic chink in Mr Kohl's armoury of supreme self-confidence. Had he not told Mikhail Gorbachev four months earlier that the tide of German unity, like the Rhine, could not be dammed? In a book due to be launched today, Mr Kohl seeks to demonstrate that he not only knew the two Germanys would unite in his lifetime, but carried the project through almost single-handedly, with a little help from the Soviet leader.

Never mind the millions of East Europeans who had risen against Communist rule throughout the Soviet block. The Wall, it seems, tumbled before the Chancellor's will power. "I wanted German unity," proclaims the title of Mr Kohl's memoirs. Ergo, German unity happened.

The Chancellor, who celebrates 14 years in office today, often refers to the unification as his greatest achievement, to be surpassed only by the unification of Europe's currencies in 1999. Historians credit him with recognising the opportunity and grasping it with both bands, but according to these recollections refused: "On this question I alhe should also be thanked for ready bad ... an entirely difstopping the Russians shooting ferent opinion," he writes.

After the momentous news reached him, Mr Kohl interrupted his Polish visit and made haste for East Germany. Under a post-war treaty, his Luftwaffe jet was banned from the Berlin skies, so he flew to Hamburg over Swedish airspace, transferred to a military plane rustled up by the United States embassy in Bonn, and headed east.

In West Berlin, he was met by jeering left-wing crowds, who greeted his every word delivered from the balcony at Schöneberg town hall with whistles. As he was trying to pacify the mob. news about the dramatic events unfolding in the city. Mr Gorbachev had managed to reach a member of the Chancellor's

entourage by telephone. Gorbachev wanted to know if it was true that things in Berlin were getting completely out of hand," Mr Kohl writes, according to extracts published by Der Spiegel magazine. "Was it true that outraged masses were storming Soviet military

been fed false information by his On 9 November 1989 Helmut Kohl was visiting Poland when he received an evident when the Stasi wanted to provoke a military intervention by the Soviet troops stationed in East Germany," he explains. But the Chancellor dared

not go to the phone and leave to relay his assurance to the Kremlin that Berlin was not on the verge of an insurrection. Mr Gorbachev believed him and a bloodbath was averted. To this day I am very grateful to Gorbachev for not listening to the agitators," Mr Kohl writes, "As Mikhail Gorbachev told me later, he had then sent an unmistakable signal to the East Berlin authorities that, unlike on 17 June 1953, the Soviet Union's tanks would not be

In fact, the border had only been open for one day, and East Germans were far too busy sampling the delights of West Berlin's department stores to worry about the Soviet bases. And the East German leadership very quickly understood whose orders they would have

The following day, 11 No-vember, Mr Kohl had his first telephone conversation with Egon Krenz, the new and soon to be ex-leader of the German Krenz tried to extract a pledge that German reunification would not be on the agenda, but his Western counterpart flatly

The implications sank in immediately. Mr Krenz asked sheepishly how the East German media ought to describe their discussion. "Just tell them that we have held an intensive discussion," Mr Kohl suggested. "Krenz repeated it in military style: 'an intensive discussion'.

The plan to annex East Germany was hatched by Mr Kohl's kitchen cabinet. The East German Prime Minister, Hans Modrow, had produced a blue-print for a "confederation", an idea the Chancellor was not prepared to tolerate. Others might want to consult their governments, even their legislature s, ter, but not Mr Kohl.

he travelled to his house in Ludaround the kitchen table, made "a couple of calls" to an MP and came up with the "10 Points for Germany", the document detailing re-unification step by step. But it was not all the Chan-cellor's doing. His memoirs reveal that the actual words were

jotted down by his wife, Han-nelore Kohl.

Mr Kohl says he later dis-



Don't mention the war to Thatcher

son determined to keep the most vivid emblem of the Cold War alive, writes Imre Karacs.
Margaret Thatcher was the toughest opponent of unification, Chancellor Kohl reveals.

According to his book, the crunch came at the European Union summit in Strasbourg on December 1989. Germany's leader had high hopes of per-suading the Russians to consign East Germany to the dustbin of history, and had travelled to Strasbourg expecting a round of applause for his feat.

What he got was a great deal of embarrassed silence,

some mild expressions of con-cern and, particularly from one quarter, outright opposition. While nobody mentioned the war, it was very clearly on the participants' mind.

"The strongest reservations came from Number 10 Down-

Bonn — The Berlin Wall was collapsing, communism was in retreat, but there was one perthe receiving end of the famous handbag many times, so he had learnt to treat Mrs Thatcher with "respect and sympathy", hut there was no getting awa from what can only be described as a "clash of cultures".

"On many questions of fact, of course, my opinion was com-pletely different from hers," he writes, "Like many of her generation, she was deeply distrustful of Germans, and I constantly tried to see things from her viewpoint. She did not want to take on board that Germany, at the end of a century of defeats in two world wars, should appear to be the big

Mr Kohl also encountered hostility in Paris, but in deference to his deceased friend, François Mitterrand, the French President in 1989, Chancellor Kohl attributes this to the ing Street," Mr Kohl writes, ac- French press.



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Professor Sir Geoffrey Wilkinson

The Nobel Laureate Sir Geoffrey Wilkinson's scientific work spanned 55 years and covered many aspects, but he will be ate in Physics (1951), had earremembered chiefly for his outstanding contributions to organometallic chemistry - the study of compounds which contain direct metal-carbon bonds. Many of these compounds are a Royal Scholarship to Imperof industrial use as catalysts substances which make chemical reactions occur faster without themselves being consumed - and the subject of catalysis was one io particular to which Wilkinson made remarkable and innovative contributions.

At Imperial College London, where he was Professor of Inorganic Chemistry from 1956 to 1978 (and then Sir Edward Frankland Professor, 1978-88), the spirit io his research group was more like that of an urgent gold-rush in the West than the scholarly and disciplined calm expected in academia. Many mistakes were made, explosions occurred, and fires

Indeed, the present President of the Royal Society of Chemistry, Professor Eddie Abel, hlew off the door of Wilkinson's office, and of every window in the block. Wilkinson was lecturing at the time, rushed back and set about a desperate search for the dispersed manuscript of the near-complete draft of the first edition of his famous book (with F. A. Cotton) Advanced Inorganic Chemistry: a comprehensive text (1962).



Wilkinson, right, with E.O. Fischer, centre, and Nikolaas Tinbergen at Photograph: Hulton Getty

He was educated at Todmorden Secondary School: Sir John Cockroft, a Nobel Laurelier been a pupil there, making it almost certainly the only school in the world to have educated two Nobel prizewinoers. In 1939, he was awarded ial College, where he read the top first class honours BSc in 1941. His subsequent PhD studies at the college were supervised by Professor H.V.A. Briscoe, but in January 1943 he was recruited, together with other outstanding young scientists, by the Government to work on the atomic bomb project at Montreal and theo at

Chalk River, Canada, until 1946. He then went to work with Professor Glenn Seaborg on nuclear taxooomy at Berkeley, where he discovered more isotopes than anyone before or since. In 1950, he joined the staff at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and then, in September 1951, became

Assistant Professor at Harvard. It was at MIT and Harvard that Wilkinson's interest in organometallic chemistry developed, but the crucial moment of his career came at Harvard. Together with the organic chemist and later Nobel Laureate R.B. Woodward, he recognised the unprecedented molecular structure of the organometallic compound now known as ferrocene.

These tools enabled Wilkinson to understand the molecular structure of the new compounds with much greater certainty than would have been otherwise possible. Indeed, in the early days the products of the chemical reactions carried out in his research group very often gave quite unexpected outcomes, thereby demonstrating the subtlety and complexity of organo-transition metal chemistry. In June 1955, Wilkinson was

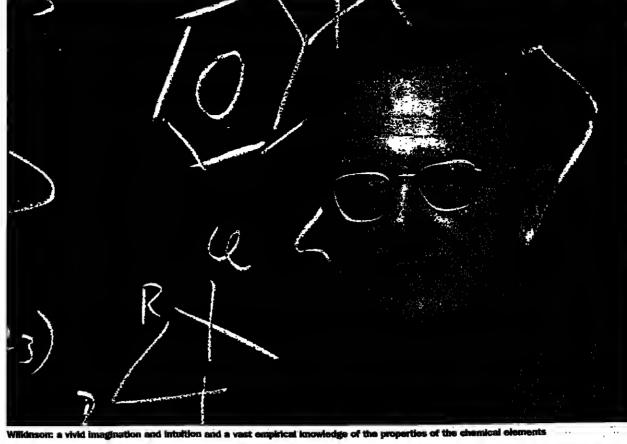
organic Chemistry (in com-memoration of Frankland, the based his ideas on his vast em-pirical knowledge of the prop-

In this molecule there is an iron atom centrally placed between the planes of two fivemembered rings formed by five carbon-hydrogen groups. This picturesque structure led to its description as a "sandwich molecule". Wilkinson, being an inorganic chemist, immediately set about investigating the fundamental ideas suggested by this molecule and took advantage of his extensive knowledge of transition metal chemistry. This, combined with an out-

standing experimental intuition, resulted in a 40-year period of extraordinary productivity whereby he revealed the enormous extent of this new area known as organo-transition metal chemistry. In Germany, Professor E.O. Fischer also appreciated the significance of the ferrocene structure and prepared the analogous molecule in which chromium was sandwiched between two benzene rings. Wilkinson and Fischer pioneered the development of this new field with such success that they were jointly awarded the Nobel Prize in 1973.

In the early 1950s inorganic chemistry was undergoing a re-naissance, not least because of the post-war availability of new spectroscopic methods such as infra-red and nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy and single crystal x-ray diffraction.

appointed Professor of Inorganic Chemistry at Imperial College. At that time, this was the only established Chair in inorganic chemistry in Britain; later it was renamed the Sir Edward Frankland Chair of In-



"father of organometallic chemistry who was at the college from 1865). Wilkinson took up his position in January 1956 after a short sabbatical stay in Copenhagen, and at 34 he was one of the youngest professors ever appointed at the college.

He brought with him the more direct and informal style of personal management found in North America. He dressed casually and called his students by their first names and expected to be called Geoff. In the early days at Imperial College, he worked feverishly in the race to explore the newly discovered continent of chemistry. He was always sceptical - with some justification - of the value of chemical theory in having a predictive role in his work. He

the chemical elements; this, combined with a vivid imagination and intuition, led him to see analogies and connections not previously made.

His work in Britain was always curiosity-driven: none the less in addition to his fundamental studies his discoveries led to major advances in applied chemistry. He prepared the rhodium compound known as Wilkinson's catalyst and this engendered crucial contributions to the development of methods for the synthesis of pharmaceutical chemicals. He also discovered the rhodium catalysts now used in the industrial process known as hydroformylation whereby olefins are converted to aldehydes and alcohols. Patents arising from this work enabled Wilkinson to

after his retirement. After his retirement as Sir Edward Frankland Professor in 1988, he was appointed Professor Emeritus; he was provided with a new laboratory funded by Johnson Matthey in which he continued to run a

small but lively and creative research group until his death. He was the author (with Professor F.A. Cotton, one of his earliest graduate students and now a eading academic chemist in the United States) of a pioneering textbook Advanced Inorganic Chemistry, first published in 1962, which has been a standard work ever since. He had handed in the final chapter of his contribution to the sixth edition of this work the week before he

Geoffrey Wilkinson had a

erties and known reactions of support his research group complex personality, to some he could seem a rather forbidding figure, but those who knew and loved him recognised a friend with a profound knowledge of his subject and of other fields. He had a single-minded focus on the quality of originality which he had in abundance, and it was hard for most of his colleagues to satisfy his demand-ing standards. He expected his duate students to share his limitless enthusiasm and energy for new chemistry and in consequence inspired many of them. He wore his fame lightly and was accessible to all. He was a fierce protector of British science and research and he insisted on publishing almost all his research papers (over 550 of them) in British scientific

umals.

scourge of those respons higher education in his battles for the cause of fundamental research in the country. A succession of prime ministers received numerous letters from him on this and other subjects, as did Research Councils, Vice-Chancellors, officers of the Royal Society and others.

He had a great sense of fun, was an emclient raconteur, and had a catholic range of interests. He was intensely proud of being a Yorkshireman and a ing a Yorksaneman; and a favourite boliday was walking on the moors and fellig around Pen-y-Ghent; he analysis wife were active sangual and downhill shiers. He planted some 2,000 trees of his country estate

Some two months before his death, a dianer was held at Imperial College to celebrate his 40 years at the college; over a hundred people attended from all over the world. Many of those present were distin-guished professors who had been taught by Geoffrey Wilkinson: it was a happy and memorable occasion for all.

In 1951, he married Lise Sølver, danghter of Professor Sven Aage Schou, the Rector of Denmark's Pharmaceutical High School. He was a caring and supportive family man and a proud grandfather. He is sur-vived by his wife and their two daughters, Anne and Pernille.

Malcolm Green and Rill Griffith

Geoffrey Wilkinson, chemist: born Springside, Yorkshire 14 July 1921; Research Fellow, University of California at Berkeley 1946-50; Instructor, MIT 1950-51; Assistant Professor of Chem-istry, Harvard University 1951-56; Professor of Inorganic Chemistry, Imperial College London 1956-78, Sir Edward Frankland Professor 1978-88 (Emeritus); FRS 1965; Nobel Prize for Chemistry (jointly with E.O. Fischer) 1973; Kt 1976; author of Advanced Inorganic Chemistry (with F.A. Cotton) 1962, Basic Inorganic Chemistry (with F.A. Cotton) 1976; married 1951 Lise Solver (two daughters); died London 26 September 1996.

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enginer's trees

Shusaku Endo

Last year, one of Japan's bestknown novelists, Shusaku Endo. was to have received the Culture Prize from the hands of the Emperor. But he was too ill to attend the ceremonies at the Imperial Palace. The general public had been dismayed when the Nobel Prize for Literature tian religion which was so unwent to Kenzaburo Oé instead of the far more popular Endo, and there were rumours that Endo's nial, and in some way to make grievous disappointment at not receiving the Nobel Prize had contributed to a sudden decline

in his already unstable health. The writer had suffered from poor health all his life. Picurisy had kept him out of active service in the Pacific War, though he had to slave on the assembly lines of a Kawasaki factory. He often spent long periods in hospital, and some of his work is set in medical environments.

His best-known work in the West is Chimmoku ("Silence"), published in 1966. It is a massive, ambitiously conceived novel about the martyrdom of Japan's early Christian converts in the 16th and early 17th centuries, and it caused controversy when it won the Tanizaki Prize because of an incident in which the Portuguese Jesuit priest.

betray his Christian faith by treading a crucifix underfoot. Christianity has never taken hold in Japan to the same extent as in South Korea and the Philippines, and Endo in this fine novel seems to be trying to discover why, to take "the Chriscongenial to me as a Japanese, analyse why it was so uncongeit something more compatible".

It made a great impression both in Japan and ahroad (and was filmed by Masaharu Shinoda in 1971), hut had no effect whatsoever oo the spread of Christianity. Indeed, Endo recently revealed that one of his books - he did not mention which - had been banned in the Roman Catholic schools and colleges of Nagasaki, the centre of Christian belief in Japan.

Shusaku Endo was born in Tokyo in 1923, but spent his early years in China. When his parents were divorced there, he returned to Japan with his mother and lived with a Roman Catholic aunt who persuaded him to be baptised into the faith. Shusaku was 11. In one of his best short stories, Kage ("Shadows"), from his 1959 collection Christovao Ferreira, is forced to Saigo no junkyosha ("The Final

Martyrs"), Endo describes this traumatic event:

Whenever Llook back along the river of my life, somehow I always think of that little church in the Hanshm district where I was compelled to re-ceive baptism ... Of necessity, I be-gan attending the church, escorted there by my mother and aunt.

Endo entered Keio Univerwhere he studied French Literature. In 1950, he was finally free to leave Japan and went to Lyons, where he spent two and a half years reading French Catholic authors like Claudel, Bernanos and Mauriac. But he fell seriously ill and had to suffer one of his many hospitalisations. On returning to Japan in

1953, Endo composed his first work of fiction: a short story, "Aden made" ("To Aden", 1954), based on recollections of his vovages to and from Europe. In 1955 he gained immediate recognition in Japan with his short novel Shiroi hito ("White Men") when it was awarded the Akutagawa Prize. Like some of the contemporary novels he had been reading in France, it was set in the period of Nazi occupation, a tale of French Resistance fighters and their betrayals of faith and loyalty, a dramatic

mixture of several forms of guilt and remorse. In 1956, he wrote Kiroi hito ("Yellow Man") in the form of a letter written by a student to a French missionary, a Greene-like figure who appears in many of his stories.

The Japanese have a pen-

chant for approximate comparisons, and Endo came to be known as "the Graham Greene of Japan". To the Japanese contrived even in his best works. "Grimgrin" was a literary god only slightly obscured by the sun of "Sunset Mum" (Somerset Maugham). But apart from the fact that they were both Roman Catholics and sometimes portrayed priestly characters riven by theological doubts and existential guilt, they really have little in common. True, Greene wrote lighter novels, called "entertainments" and Endo wrote works with touches of his own particular humour like the 1969 Taihen da ("Good Grief!") and basically serious novels like Obakasan ("Wonderful Fool", 1959), but in Greene's case the touch is supremely light, in Endo's rather laboured.

"Wonderful Fool" is an entertaining story about a rather simple-minded Frenchman. Gaston, in the jungles of contemporary Tokyo, depicted in

nightmare Kafkaesque fashion. Unfortunately the hunoruselycomes rather heavy and hard to sh
take, while the growing chinplexity of the clockwork plot tires by its very ingenuity. Thave attributes that help to create a to admit that Endo was one of reputation as a great writer: ho those Japanese writers, like was very productive and the list Mishima and Oe, who never ap- of all his works is too long to re-

thing too willed, too

In the 1970 oovel Fukaikawa

("Deep River"), set in India, the plot is constructed with almost mathematical precision, presenting slightly wooden characters representing various human qualities, characteristics and callings. It contrasts two conventional fictional types, a destructive young woman and a saintly young Japanese Catholic studying for the priesthood; a man whose wife has just died and who is trying to forget her; a writer of children's books, portraying the author himself, and an old soldier with memories of the "Railway of Death" in Burma, All these, and several other stereotypes, react and interact in a rather mechanical way. The style is wordy and repetitive, and the story suffers from the typical Japanese pas-

postulant is killed at the same time as Indira Gandhi, Endo shows great dramatic stoll in this novel, yet one finds it rather dull.

Shusaku Endo had one of the attributes that help to create a pealed to me. There was some- produce here. Among the best are Ryugaku ("Foreign Studies 1965), Sukyandaru ("Scandal", 1986), Umi to dokuyaku ("The Sea and the Poison", 1957) and Samurai (1982), winner of the Noma Literary Prize. He also wrote a play, Ogon no kuni ("The Golden Country", 1966). performed by his own troupe of argely amateur actors.

In the end, one gets the impression that Endo was returning to his roots, to a Buddhist view of self and existence, as if he at last saw the similarities between Oriental and Western ways of belief. One of his finest works is lesyu no shogui ("Life of Jesus", 1978), which won the Dag Hammarskjöld Prize in 1978.

James Kirkup

Shuşaku Paul Endo, novelist and playwright: born Tokyo 27 March 1923; married 1955 Junto Okado (one son); died Tokyo 29 September 1996.



Dramatic skill: Endo - 'the Graham Gr

Births, **Marriages** & Deaths

BIRTHS

POWELL: On 20 August to Sarah (néc Wills) and David, a beautiful daughter Faye tsabelle, a sister for Matthew. DEATHS

FINGERHUT: John. FPS, passed awa

peacefully at home, aged 85. He will be much missed by all his family and IN MEMORIAM

DAWS: Ethel B. Daws (nee Dickinson died 1 October 1995, May Goo For Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES &

DEATHS, please telephone 0171-293 2011 or fix 0171-293 2010. Charges are £6.50 a line (VAT extra).

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS ROYAL S. Nich Reit M. Envision and Clothing Empire Council, visits Ramiting and Clothing Empire Council, visits Rams Ariss Designs. South Moleton Street, London W1. as Frederic, Sweet the Children Fund, attends the Annual Meeting for Volunteers as Westminster Council Hell. Landon SWI; as President, British Kanting and Clothing Export Council, vajits Tatesman, Foldman Road, Loadion SWI, as President, Sweet the Children Fand, Loadion SWI, as President, Sweet the Children Fand, attends the Energy Industries. Council's annual distinct at the Growentor House Road, London WI. The Duchess of Gloscoster upons the New Birmingham Wonger's Hospital, Merchiley Park Road, Edghaston, the new extensions.

Changing of the Guard Criming ting of the Crearia.
The Household Cavalry Mounted Regimen mounts the Concra't Life Guard at Harse Guards, 11am; Nijmeigen Contrarty Greenider Guards mounts the Queen's Guard, at Backingham Palace, 11.73m, band provided by the Colditionam

Forthcoming marriages

Mr S. P. Ford and Miss C. S. Winnifrith

The engagement is announced be-tween Stephen, second son of Mr and Mrs John Ford, of Yapton, West Sus sex, and Charlotte, elder daughter of Mr Charles Winnifrith, and of the late Mrs Winnifrith, of SI Margaret's at

Birthdays Miss Julie Andrews, actress and singer, 61; Mr Moran Caplat, former Glyndebourne administrator, 80; Mr ny Carter, former US President, 72; Mr Roy de Courcy Chapman, Headmaster, Mabrem College, 60; Cardinal Cahal Daly, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Armagh, 79: Mr Sandy Gall, television news presenter, 69; Mr John Gray, former ambassador to Belgium, 60; Mr John Gunnell MP, 63; Professor Sir Stuart Hampshire, philosopher, 82; Mr Richard Harris, actor, 63; Major David Jamieson VC, 76; Sir Edwin Jowitt, High Court judge, 67; Mr Graham Leach, radio news foreign correspondent, 48; Mr Thorold Masefield, High Commissioner to Nigeria, 57; Mr Walter Matthau, actor, 76; Mr Peter Nobes, former chief constable of West Yorkshire, 61; Mr Edward O'Hara MP, 59; Dame Kathleen Ollerenshaw, educationist, 84: Professor John Reid, Regius Professor of Medicine and Therapeutics, Glasgow University, 53; Professor Sir Roland Smith, a director, Bank of England, 68; the Right Rev David Stancliffe, Bishop of Salisbury, 54; Professor Sir Colin Stansfield Smith, architect, 64; Sir Robert Telford, life president of Marconi, 81; Miss Jean Thomas, biochemist, 54; Mr Geoffrey Whitehead, actor, 57; Mr James itmore, actor, 75.

Anniversaries Births: Henry III, King, 1207; Gia-

como da Vignola (Giacomo Barozzi), architect, 1507; Giovanni Matteo Asola, priest and composer, 1609: m Thomas Beckford, author and millionaire, 1759; Pierre-Marie François de Sales Baillot, violinist, 1771; Sir Robert Smirke, architect, 1781; Karl von Piloty, painter, 1826; Annie Besant, social reformer and theosophist, 1847; Stanley Holloway, actor and entertainer, 1890; Laurence Harvey (Laruska Mischa Skilene), ac-tor, 1928; Louis Untermeyer, author and editor, 1885. Deaths: Marsilio Ficino, scholar and philosopher, 1499: Pierre Comeille, playwright, 1684; Don John of Austria, soldier, 1578; John Blow, organist and composer, 1708; Sir Edwin Henry Landseer, painter, 1873; Anthony Ashley Coop-er, seventh Earl of Shaftesbury, so-cial reformer, 1885; Benjamin Jowen, classical scholar, 1893; Wilhelm Dilthey, philosopher, 1911; Ludwig Bemelrusus, author and illustrator for children, 1962; Louis Seymour Bazett Leakey, anthropologist, 1972; Roy Harris, composer, 1979; Don Banks, composer, 1980. On this day: moncy orders were first issued in Britain, 1792; Belgium became part of the French Republic, 1795; Louisiana was ceded to France by Spain, 1800; the News of the World was first published, 1843; the Midland Railway opened St Pancras Station, 1868; Austria issued the first postcards, 1869; halfpeumy postage was introduced in Britain, 1870; stamped postcards were first issued in Britain, 1870; the Model T was introduced by Henry Ford, 1908; German forces entered the Sudetenland, 1938; the People's

Republic of China was proclaimed 1949; Nigeria became independent 1960; the Watergate trial started 1974; Pakistan rejoined the Com-1974; Pausian rejoined the Com-monwealth after an absence of 17 years, 1989. Today is the Feast Day of Si Bavo or Allowin, St Melorus or Mylor, St Remigius or Remi, St Ro-manus the Melodist and St Thérèse

Lectures

Victoria and Albert Muses Morris, "Eighteenth-century Wax Portraits", 2.30pm. British Museum: Louise Schofield Legend and Archaeology: 'Priam's treasure of Troy", 1.15pm. National Gallery: Mark Gerson

son", 1.10pm. National Portrait Gallery: Kathle Adler, "Male Nudes (i): Calllebotte, Man at his Bath", 1pm.
Royal Society, Parsons Memorial Lecture (to be held at the Institution of Civil Engineers): Mr Edward Haws, Tidal Power: a major

prospect for the 21st century", 6pm.

"Literati: photographs by Mark Ger-

Duncan Stewart

A memorial service will be held for Duncan Montgomery Stewart MA, Principal of Lady Margaret Hall 1979-95, in the University Church of St Mary the Virgin, Oxford, on Sat-urday 26 October 1996 at 2 30pm.

Imperial Cancer

Research Fund Imperial Cancer Research Fund have announced the appointment of Mr Peter Vicary-Smith, current-ly Head of Appeals at Oxfam, as Head of Voluntary Income, with effect from 1 October 1996.

Barings' auditors may be sued in London Barings plc and another v LAW REPORT

ended 31 December 1994.

Coopers & Lybrand (a firm) and others; Chancery Division (Mr Justice Chadwick) 2 August 1996

sion for coincidence: the young

Claims by Barings plc against both its own auditors in London and the auditors of its Singapore subsidiary raised common questions of law and fact, which in both cases arose out of a series of unauthorised transactions by Barings' employee Nicholas Leeson. The Singapore auditors were therefore "proper par-ties" to an action lannched by Barings pic in London and writs could be served on them outside the jurisdiction.

Mr Justice Chadwick re-

fused applications by the fourth and fifth defendants, Khoo Kum Wing and S.J. Tan, to set aside the leave granted by Master Barratt, on 23 January 1995, enabling the plaintiffs, Barings plc and Bishopscourt (BS) Ltd, to serve a writ on

them outside the jurisdiction. The first plaintiff was the ultimate holding company of a group which included the second plaintiff, a Cayman Islands company formerly known as Baring Securities Ltd. one of whose subsidiaries was Baring Futures (Singapore) Pte Ltd (BSF). The whole Barings group collapsed in Fehruary 1995 following massive losses by BSF, which

1 October 1996 vice of the writ against them on had been caused by the unau-

thorised trading activities of Mr Leeson, its general manager. the ground that it contained no good arguable claim or that The first defendants, Coopthere was no serious issue to be er & Lybrand, were the extertried against them, and in any nal auditors of Barings plc for case that the English court the financial years ending 31 December 1991 to 1994. The was not the appropriate forum. Stanley Burnton QC, Richard Gillis, Graham Halkaston (Slaughter & second and third defendants. May) for the plaintiffs, Jonathan Guisman QC, Christopher Butcher Chair Chee Kheong Mah and Po'ad Bin Shaik Abu Bakar Mattar, were partners of De-loitte & Touche, the external (Wilde Sapte) for the second and third defendants: Richard Field QC, Philip Sales (Herbert Smith) for the fourth auditors of BFS for the financial year ending 30 September and fifth defendants. 1992 and the subsequent ac counting period ending 31 De-cember 1993. The fourth and Mr Justice Chadwick said he was satisfied to the standard of fifth defendants were partners a "good arguable case" for the of Coopers & Lybrand (Sin-

purposes of Order 15, rule 4(1) of the Rules of the gapore), the external auditors Supreme Court, that if separate of BFS for the financial year actions were brought against The plaintiffs claimed damthe first defendant and the ages against the defendants fourth and fifth defendants. for their failure to identify and some common questions of report on the lack of internal law or fact would arise in each controls in BSF or on Leeson's and that the relief claimed in unauthorised trading through both arose out of the same an account designated 88888. transaction or series of transor to discover that a receivable actions. The claims in both of Yen 7.778bn from Spear, cases arose out of the unau-Leeds & Kellog on 2 February thorised trading of Mr Leeson. It followed that the fourth

1995, was fictitious. The fourth and fifth defenand fifth defendants were dants sought to set aside ser-"proper parties" to the plainfendants and that the court had jurisdiction under Order 11, rule 1(1)(c) to permit service

out of the jurisdiction. The submission that there was no serious issue to be tried was put on the grounds that the fourth and fifth defendants, as auditors of BFS, owed no relevant duty of care to Barings plc, or if they did, that it was secondary to the duty owed to BFS, and BFS was the properplaintiff.

It was clear on the evidence that the fourth and fifth defendants knew the information which they were instructed to supply was required by Barings pic so that its directors could comply with the obligation under section 227 of the Compa nies Act 1985 to prepare consolidated accounts showing a true and fair view of the financial affairs of the group. It could not therefore be said

there was no serious issue of law to be tried as to the existence of a duty of care owed by these defendants to Barines ple-Finally, his Lordship was

satisfied that the English court was the most appropriate for rum for the trial of the claims made by Barings plc against the fourth and fifth defendants.

Paul Magrath, Barrists

This woman is right to want life after death

s DB should be allowed to bear her husband's child. She has watched her husband die sperm to be used - whether the partfrom sudden illness, and now she is fighting in the courts to be impregnated with his sperm so that she can have the baby she says they both wanted. The idea that she should be stopped because he was incapable of signing the right piece of paper seems, on the face of it, inhumane.

Empathising with her is easy. It happens every day; people are killed or struck dead by sudden illness, leaving loved ones behind. They always wanted to have children together, talked of it, and now the partner who is left behind feels more than ever the need to huild something on the foundations of that lost love. A child is the ultimate testimony - perhaps the one intimation of immortality that answers the hrutal fact of death. Generations of poets have described this. Millions of people are the childreo of men who died before their hirth. But only now has technology made it possible for a woman to cooceive, rather than to carry, a child after her husband dies. And the real question is whether or

oot this raises oew ethical dilemmas. In any advanced society, ethical problems are codified and paperwrapped in legislatioo. As far as the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority is coocerned, the law canoot allow this woman to have the baby ner is to be impregnated before or after his death. And consent must be informed by understanding, too. Whether husband and wife, or strangers, everyone involved needs to undergo appropriate counselling before something so emotive as the

creation of human life can go ahead. Nor is it only fertilisation in which consent must play such a central role. If Ms DB had wanted to donate her husband's heart or kidneys for transplant surgery, she could oot have dooe so without his prior agreement. When death comes suddenly, oo matter how much relatives may speculate about the probable desires of the deceased while he was alive, it is too late. The dead can't sign.

This framing of the law suggests that there is an ethical question here, buried in the seemingly cold, bureaucratic "oo". And there is. In theory, the impregnation of women with dead men's sperm could lead to unpleasant and morally dangerous outcomes. Imagine the clamour of Beatles fans desperate to be impregnated with the sperm of the late John Lennon. Ask what happens if an ex-wife or exlover demands the sperm of a dead man who oever wanted her children. How would the grown child feel? And if it can happen one way, what



ONE CANADA SQUARE CANARY WHARF LONDON EM 5DL TELEPHONE 0171-293 2000 / 0171-345 2000 FAX 0171-293 2435 / 0171-345 2435

about the other way? Would we really feel comfortable with men requesting the eggs from the ovaries of dead wives and partners, to be impregnated and implanted in the womb of a surregate?

As we have been learning again and again this year, with fertility treatments, and frozen embryos, the ethical questions on the frontier of new medical technology are oot easy. Most of us struggle and fail to find simple principles to guide us through dilemmas that could not have existed 30 years ago. In the absence of easy answers, we muddle oo from case to case, mak-

ing our minds up on the specifie details as they arise.

But this is not a bad thing. Muddling on means, in practice, applying humanity, individual moral sensibility and commoo sense to individual cases. It means accepting a certain leeway for individuals to struggle with their own choices. It means acknowledging that one person's choice will not oecessarily meet with general approval, but may yet turn out to be the right ooe. And all that means leaving the law loose enough for those choices to he made wherever living people are oot hurt by them.

The Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act isn't stupid or heartless. Uoderpinning it are sensible thoughts about human life – it is not the best possible start in life for a child to have one pareot dead, and the other recently bereaved. We would hope that a surviving would-be parent could be well counselled, and advised to wait until the initial shock of the death had passed. But the law does appear to be too tight, a little too logically drafted for human complexities. Ms DB is still hoping that it can indeed be reinterpreted more broadly, to allow her to bear the child she wants. The courts could still concede that where the donor is one of a close couple, where relatives and frieods agree that it was what he or she wanted, written consent should not be needed, eveo if the donor is dead.

But whatever her defeoce, DB should be allowed to make the decision to have the child. Under the existing, unsustainable arrangements, the law is caught in the absurd position of trying to defeod the interests of the dead by stopping something that, m this case, everyone agrees the dead would have wanted. It is preventing those who cannot answer for themselves from becoming parents against their will. Yet by doing so, the law will doubtless be denying some of the dead what would have been their dearest living wish. The law is oot an ass. But

it is an abstract code, a crude attempt to map the complexity of life with rules and absolutes. And where, as here, we are all feeling our way blindly forward, the law should stand o little back. It may well turn out that Ms DB, whoever she is, is wiser than the Human Fertilisation and Embryology

Something rotten in the country

ountry landowners have finally con-Ifronted the modern urban complaint about Britain's moist green meadows - her rich glinting loam, her busy farmsteads, her picturesque ducks, her rootling pigs. They stink. Townies loathe the smell of food production, the reek of manure and the whiff of slurry. Landowners, recognising the economic power of these weekend visitors, now suggest there should be curbs on wheo manure is sprayed about. But why stop there? Urban Britons have become used to certain "natural" aromas, like 'bluebell wood" air fresheners. What we oeed is for the rural landscape to be sprayed with flowery odours manufactured by chemical companies - the air freshening of Olde Britain. And instead of trees, we could plant giant cardboard pine trees. Theo we could walk out, inhale and enjoy the country properly.

• LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •



Michael Heath's Britain: HRH The Princess Royal arrives at the Equestrian Awards Lunch

Use Nazi gold to ease plight of survivors Sir. There is at last serious talk of

restoring mooey to those Jews and their families who deposited funds in Swiss banks, and who later became victims of the Holocaust. There is also a suggestion that the £40m that the Bank of England stills holds from the Nazis should be used for the benefit of families of victims of the Holocaust.

While we realise that it will never be possible to be absolutely equitable in the distribution of such fuods, as and when they become available, there is one overlooked group who we believe should be a made available now.

Of the approximately 6 million Jews, and 7 million other victims of the Holocaust, there are still some half a million survivors living today. Many of these survivors are still emotionally and mentally tortured by their experience. In many cases the difficulties of these survivors have grown more severe with old age. We propose that an appropriate international body should administer the substantial funds needed so that adequate emotional and appropriate medical support for the long-term effects of trauma can

be guaranteed to these people. Perhaps by this act we will enable survivors finally to find some respite. The children of Holocanst victims suffer disproportionate emotional problems. These have also been largely unaddressed. thereby perpetuating the legacy of this violation of humanity.

Survivors still endure the

ongoing consequences of the Holocaust, and we believe that the

first duty is to help them. At present there are grossly inadequate funds for the necessary ongoing support that many survivors require. We urge all those who are looking for what is just and equitable not to forget the needs of those living - especially those who still inhabit a private world of torture, created by experiences that few of us today can imagine. RICHARD HORNSBY Director, the Sir Robert Mond Memorial Trust HELEN BAMBER Director, the Medical Foundation for Victims of Torture The Hon DAVID BERNSTEIN JUNE JACOBS HELENA KENNEDY OC LORD LESTER QC KATHARINE VISCOUNTESS MACMILLAN Rabbi JULIA NEUBERGER Rabbi JOHN RAYNER Lord ROTHSCHILD Sir SIGMUND STERNBERG Dr ANTHONY STORR Dr STUART TURNER President, European Society for Traumatic Stress Studies Professor JAMES WATSON Chairman Department of Psychiatry

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Plant Marris

Pensioner's treat

and Psychology, United Medical and Dental Schools of Guy's and St

Thomas' Hospitals

London SW7

LADY ZUCKERMAN

Sir: Now that a first-class stamp costs 26p and my husband is nearing 80 years of age, I did wonder if the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in the kindness of his heart, could see fit to increase by one penny the extra 25p pension enable him to buy one.

have own minds

Sir: We write having read your survey of Labour prospective parliamentary candidates (30 September).

Waiting for the

September) would solve localised

pollution in our cities but not the other main problem caused by car

accepted that traffic increases to fill

Electric buses could bring a real

improvement. In some towns and

excluded to the advantage of buses and this clears road space to

Unfortunately, it also gives buses a

impact - high speeds, intimidating

size, thunderous noise and diesel

impact, low-speed electric buses

within our towns to make them a

fumes. What is needed is low-

pleasure to be in.

Thornaby-on-Tees

Call me lady

Sir: f wonder if anyone can

enlighten me as to why adult

addressed as "ladies". Have I

touch too genteel for them?

Daddy Paddy's army", 27

missed something, or is the term a

Speaking as a female of middle years I would much rather be called

"the lady in red" than "the woman

in banana" ("The awful niceness of

September), which seems somehow

more rough and even disrespectful.

females oow dislike being

ID WRIGHT

electric bus

Sir: Electric cars (letter, 26

traffic: congestion. It is well

cities cars have already been

improve bus transport times.

free run on the streets, with an

ensuing adverse environmental

the space available.

We are called upon every day by newspapers and pressure groups to respond to surveys on a wide variety of questions. Of course we sometimes seek advice from Head Office on matters of policy but the answers we give and the opinions we express are our own.

It would be much more helpful if we were asked for our opinions rather than to give a simple yes/no answer to questions which oewspapers believe will reveal divisions in the Labour Party.

The truth is the Labour Party is a united dynamic party ready to solve the problems this country faces, as this week's conference will show. CANDY ATHERTON LORNA FTTZSIMMONS MELANIE JOHNSON TOM LEVITT SHONA McISAAC MALCOLM SAVIDGE PHIL WOOLAS CHARLOTTE ATKINS SALLY KEEBLE GORDON MARSDEN MARGARET MORAN

DEBRA SHIPLEY

JIM FTYZPATRICK

RUTH KELLY

CHRIS POND

Blackpool

BARBARA FOLLETT

PHYLLIS STARKEY

SIOBHAN MEDONAGH

Labour hopefuls | No hand-washing | uncovers water profits missuse", 25 at Ofwat

Sir. Your business comment column ("Byatt cannot wash his hands of water trouble", 25 September) really ought to have been entitled "Ofwat nips transfer pricing practices in bud" rather than accusing us of washing our hands of the responsibility and of audacity in suggesting that the auditors should improve their

scrutiny of the regulated accounts. The 1992 Competition and Service Utility Act placed a requirement oo the director to ensure that the companies operate at arm's length. Since then, I have amended the licences to forbid the companies to cross-subsidise their activities, ensured the companies had proper accounting guidelines to follow to meet this requirement, talked to the companies about their implementation plans, and finally instigated a series of on-going checks on compliance with the guidelines. To suggest that transfer pricing has been going on without us noticing is

therefore an extraordinary claim. The audit of the regulated accounts against our guidelines is a requirement I have placed oo the companies under the terms of their licence. Nevertheless, we still adopted a belt-and-braces approach by sending in our own teams to check compliance. I would have thought this was just the sort of policing that shows the regulator is doing his job rather than washing his hands of the issue. Chris Godsmark ("Watchdog

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, and include a daytime telephone number.

September), suggests that the companies have been using their profits to subsidise "hundreds and millions of pounds of activities". This is nonsense. The amount of cross-subsidisation quantified amounted to one tenth of I per cent of the regulated turnover. Customers will certainly not subsidise these activities. I CR BYATT Director General, Ofwat,

Sir. Your report and comment on transfer pricing in the water industry lack all perspective. Far from prejudicing water customers' interests, the creation of nonregulated subsidiaries which are able to sell their services in the free market has preserved and created jobs while providing services to the regulated companies more cheaply than they could have done

Birmingham

themselves. This hardly amounts to damning evidence of malpractice, and the water companies rebut categorically accusations that they have "syphooed money" from their

regulated businesses for the benefit of their non-regulated subsidiaries. Much is made of the companies' limited resort to competitive tendering when a subsidiary hids for business from its regulated associate. Yet competitive tendering is only one of four methods of market testing recommended in Ofwat's current guidelines, with no view expressed as to which the regulator prefers. All the water companies have

routinely followed one or other of these practices. **IANET LANGDON** Director, Water Services Association London SW1

Proud Irish at ease in England

Sir: Jack O'Sullivan ("The dangerous romanticism of Irishness", 26 September) must realise that life moves on. There are very many Irish men and women throughout Britain, confident in their Irish identity, while integrating fully into the communities in which they live and work.

Born in London in the Fifties to lrish professional parents, we returned to Dublin when I was 10, as my parents had great confidence in the Irish education system. In 1983, I returned to England with my husband, a doctor. We took the decision, early on, to make a permanent home here, as we decided we'd never settle properly while still entertaining wistful hopes of returning "home" one day.

Our three children are growing up here, knowing who they are and where they fit in. As a family we delight in our shared Irish heritage its poetry, music and literature and the children are proud of this and enjoy many trips to Dublin. Equally, they are at case with the society they are growing up in. learning English history and literature. They do not feel

different from their peers. The Irish are good Europeans. and embrace all cultures with pleasure, while taking pride in our

GERALDINE BURKE Marsh Baldon, Oxfordshire

It was Eden who ruled out Europe

Sir: Winston Churchill, President of Honour of the European Movement, was certainly regarded by one of its founders - my father, E K. Cole - as fully committed to a United States of Europe ("A Eurosceptic? Churchill? Never", 27 September).
As a lifelong Conservative – he

always paid 50 per ceot of their election expenses in Southend East – Eric Cole regarded Churchill's words on the Schuman Plan quoted by Ted Heath as a commitment at the 1951 election to join, and was astonished when Anthony Eden in Rome immediately ruled it out.

The very same day, Harold acmillan was telling the Council of Europe in Strasbourg that we would be taking a full part. Equally astonished, he rushed back to Churchill, who said he could not interfere with the way Eden ran foreign affairs. Churchill was stuck with a Eurosceptic foreign minister just as Major is stuck with a Europhile chancellor.

Eden's memoirs, Full Circle, do not even mention his reasons for his momentous and catastrophic decision oot to join the Common

My father lived to see the sad failure of Macmillan's application to join. But he was not without hope; virtually his last political comment to me was: "I like the look of that young man Heath!" **DEREKJ CÓLE** St Leonards on Sea, East Sussex

Sir: In the rarefied and misinformed debate over the European single currency, and whether or not Britain should join, let us not end up with the euro by the back door.

If the euro is launched on time, with France and Germany in the first cohort of countries involved, it seems likely that the euro will become increasingly important as a global currency.

With a strong euro across the water, how many people in Britain would open accounts in curo at their local hank in order to save themselves money when going abroad on holiday or business, as well as to safeguard themselves against the likely devaluation of the pound? I would ROBIN PRIOR London E8

Pestering by charities

Sir: Andrew Gentles (Letters, 27 September) is certainly oot alone. My recent contributions to charity have elicited many requests (both by letter and telephone) for further donations, as well as books of raffle tickets, leaflets for lobbying local retailers, requests to distribute Christmas catalogues and make door-to-door collections and, most irritatingly of all, a multiple-choice questionnaire, purportedly for donor research purposes, in which each question was along the lines of "Will you send us a further donation or would you rather allow children/animals/the homeless to be starved/tortured/exploited?

I cannot help feeling that the cost of this futile pestering has probably used up a significant proportion of my initial modest contributions. Those charities that simply send me an information sheet explaining how my money will be spent are the most likely to benefit from my continued support. ANDY TYE

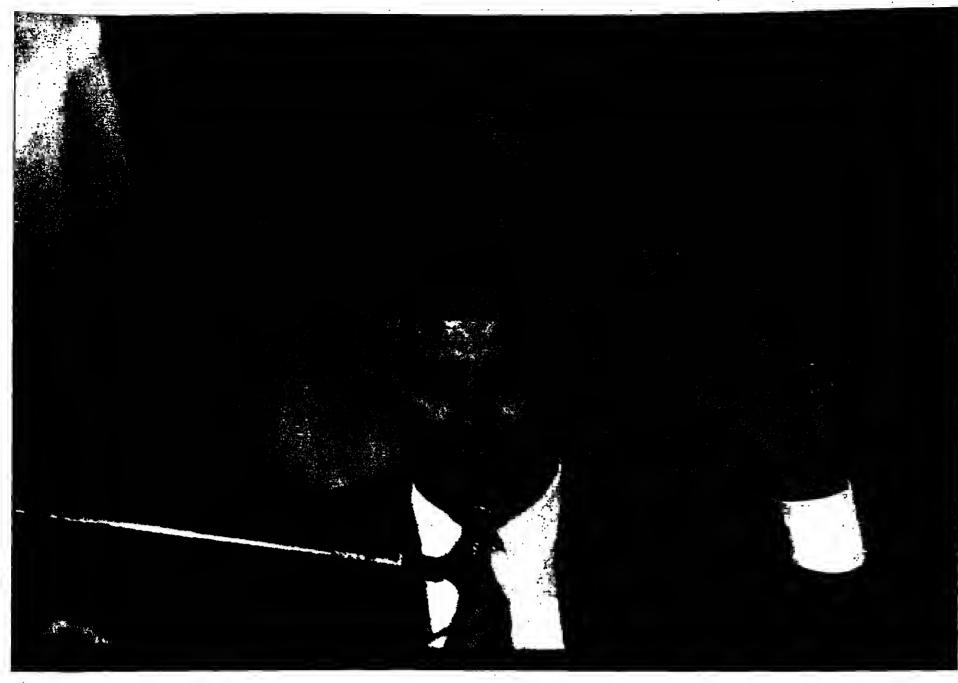
Horsham, West Sussex

Fac: 0171-293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk). E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

Come to that I'm still quite grateful to be called a girl, just so long as I'm never called an "old due to him on that occasion, to MARIE PATERSON Nuneaton, Warwickshire MIS E F TAME Mulhurst, West Sussex

Labor reder

Other Israeli leaders had shied away from opening the tunnel in Jerusalem for fear of igniting a powder keg. Benjamin Netanyahu did it, without even warning his own ministers. What sort of man is he? **Patrick** Cockburn reports



A very strange bird indeed

nr Benjamin Netanyahn, it is his first crisis as prime minister of Israel. For many Israelis and Palestinians, the crisis, perhaps the first nf many, is about Netanyahu as prime minister.

anyahu as prime minister.

There is oo doubt that he ignited it. By opening an exit to a tunnel from the main Jewish Jewish site in Jerusalem – the Western Wall – in the middle of the Muslim quarter, he was bound to provoke a strong Palestiniao reaction.

Twice before, Israeli governments had delayed opening the
tunnel because they thought it
would provoke violence. But
late one night last week, a team
of Israeli workers, instructed by
Netanyahu and protected by
armed guards, opened up a grey
steel gate on the side of a stone
tamp leading to a Palestinian
tags expected in the Via Delayers

boys' school in the Via Dokorosa.
 For 150 years, governments
 Ottoman, British and Israeli
 had avoided changing the religious status quo in Jerusalem.

but Netanyahu did so without even infurning his own chief nf staff. "It was the act of a macho teenager," says Yaron Ezzahi, a

teenager," says Yaron Ezrahi, a leading Israeli political scientist. A hundred days after he took office, Israelis are still mystified by Benjamin Netanyahu's political personality. It is a curious mixture of ideological fanaticism combined with an obsession about presentation.

"It all comes down to public

relations, and that nlone is important in Netanyahu." writes Nahum Barnea, an Israeli commentator. This trait is combined, he continues, with a determination to concentrate power on himself. "In the tunnel affair, " says Barnea. "this has left a gaping wound in his relations with his defence minister. Officials from the army and the GSS, who played a stabilising, restraining role with the previous government, have

been forced to retreat."

Replacing them are a small group of advisers, wholly dependent on Netanyahu and

all withnut experience of government, Hnurs before the tunnel was opened, Dore Gold, the
prime minister's America-born
adviser oo foreign affairs, was
keeing King Hussein in Jordan,
though he did not inform him
t- and may not have been told
about what was about to happen in Jerusalem. The real foreign minister, David Levy, is a

eign minister, David Levy, is a swarn enemy of Netanyahu, in whom he refused in speak far the three years up in just before the last election.

The ideological purist in the inner circle around Mr Netanyahu is David Bar-Ilan, a 66-year-old former concert pianist of extreme right-wing views,

inner circle around Mr Netanyahu is David Bar-Ilan, a 66year-old former concert pianist
of extreme right-wing views,
who was born io Haifa hut
spent much of his life in America. As editor of the Jenusalem
Post, he wrote a weekly column
in which he discovered antiIsraeli and anti-Semitic sentiments in such unlikely places as
the columns of The New York
Times. As the vinlence ebbed
last weekend, he singlehandedly increased tension by

suggesting that Israel's withdrawal from Hehron be reconsidered. He added that it might be time to think about disarming the 30,000 Palestinian police – something which would inevitably mean a war.

Gold and Bar-Ilan have much in common with Netanyahu himself. Like him they spent much of their lives in the US, and their ideological background is as much American neo-conservatism in the Eighties as it is traditional Zinnism.

Their views are unlikely to be moderated by a third important member of the prime minister's inner group, Avigdor Lieberman, director-general of the prime minister's nffice. An immigrant from Moldavia, he helped to run the campaign that made Netanyahu leader of the Likud party in 1993, and as a reward was made party manager. As he purged all whose loyalty to the new leader he suspected, he made many enemies. The furthightly Jerusalem Report says: The kinder souls nicknamed him KGB; the more acerbic called him Rasputin."

From the events of the past week, it would be easy in construct a conspiracy theory in which Netanyahu and his advisers decide to provoke a violent incident to be used as an excuse to end peace talks with the Palestinians. There is doubt ahnut their attitude to the peace process so far. "The Osln accords were mistaken," said David Bar-Ilan on taking office. "They were bad. The fact is that we inherited them and we have

to get out of the bramble bush."

The affair of the turniel could

have been an attempt to get out of the bramble bush. Netanyahu could have frozen the Oslo accords, claiming that the fighting proved that Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres, the further prime ministers, had given Palestinians too much independence. There is no doubt that many Israelis would have believed hun.

n fact, Netanyahu has done nothing of the sort. He said be looked forward to the peace talks with the Palestinians being resumed. But he also said that he would not discuss the tunnel at the Washington summit. His nfficials denied that he would make any coocessions to Yasser Arafat, the leader of the PLO, on withdrawal from Hebron, release of prisoners, or progressive withdrawal of Israeli troops from the West Bank. These were all agreed under the Oslo agreement last year.

In a sense, Netanyahu wants th have his cake and eat it: to make no concessions to Palestinians, but expect them and the Arab states to affer peace and security, to oppose Oslo, but affer an alternative to it. Increasingly, Israeli com-

Increasingly, Israeli commentators look far psychological rather than strictly political reasons for the prime minister's behavinur. Prof Ezrahi says that when Netanyahu was elected, be used to think that he might turn out to be a pragmatist ar ideologue. Now he thinks that "his actions are emotional rather than calculated, He is controlled by events

rather than controlling them. He could overreast at any time. Here is a leadership failure of colossal dimensions."

Nahum Barnea, comparing Arafat and Netanyahu, likens the Palestinian leader to a sly fox and the Israeli prime minister to "a peacock willing to blind himself by keeping his eyes on his own feathers". Across the Israeli political spectrum there is growing agreement that Benjamin Netanyahu is a very strange bard indeed.

Peculiar though Netanyahu's political personality may be, it is rooted in a personal history ch is very distinct. His grandfather, a religious Zionist and distinguished Talmudic scholar, emigrated from Warsaw to Palestine in 1920. His father, Ben-Zion, once secretary of Vladimir Jabotinsky, the father figure of the Israeli right, became a distinguished historian of the Spanish Inquisition. Feeling discriminated against by Labour governments Israel, he moved to the US. Benjamin, his second son, was born in 1949, and moved with his father to America at the age of 14. His brother Jonathan was killed commanding the Israeli raid no Entebbe in 1976, and Benjamin himself had a distinguished, hut not spectacular

military career.

The basis of his political success was to exploit his Israeli background in the US and his American links in Israel. His rise was spectacular. In 1979, he was a manager of the "Rim" furniture factory, where he was known at his skill for promotions. He had also founded, in

memory of his brother, an institute dedicated to fight "international terror". But his real
breakthrough came in 1982,
when Moshe Arens, then
larael's foreign minister,
needed somebody in the Israeli
embassy in Washington who
could explain the invasion of
Lebanon on American television. Within two years he was
larael's ambassador to the UN,
a post in which he was so fre-

Lebanon on American television. Within two years he was Israel's ambassador to the UN, a post in which he was so frequently on television that a poll in the US showed that many Americans believed that he was their ambassador. His UN speeches were also highly publicised in Israeli

It was in America that Netanyahu first encountered advisers such as Dore Gold and a cadre of loyalists. They helped him to enter the Knesset and win the party leadership in 1993. He was also extremely well-financed by wealthy rightwing American Jews. Labour party leaders such as Yitzhak Rabin despised him, but also tended to under-estimate him. He was as ambitious and unrelenting as any American politician. In a single television debate before the general election in May, he crushed Shimon

Peres by endless repeating, in the wake of the suicide bombs planted by Hamas, the Islamic militants, that Israeli children no longer dared to board a bus-He promised "peace with security", and enough Israelis believed him to give him a razorthin victory.

Netanyahu's will to power was impressive. Once in office, he tried to construct a presidential system focusing all

anthority on himself. Gea Ariel Sharot, one of the architects of his victory, suddenly found that he was going to be left nut of the Cabinet. Only a covert alliance with David Levy, the foreign minister, saved him. The army, suspected of Labour sympathies, was no longer consulted. New advisers, none of them well known in Israel, were visibly in control. Not even right-wing settlers on the West Bank, who had voted en masse for Netanyahu, were sure if he really supported them.

It is not as if Netanyahu had

It is not as if Netanyahu had not explained his views at length in several books. They showed him to be deeply sensitive towards the public relations aspects of any political event, but otherwise to seek explanations in conspiracies. The way to deal with Arabs was not to raise their expectations—a mistake of the Labour government—and so ensure that they would come to heel.

After the election, the Oslan peace accords, frezen since the suicide bombs earlier in the suicide bombs earlier in the year, remained on hold. But there were also a series of humiliations for the Palestinians: a meeting with Yasser Arafat was long delayed, and when it did take place produced nothing. A home for disabled children in the Old City of Jerusalem was suddenly demolished because it did not have a ficence.

Palestinian anger was building up. But Netanyahu seems to revel in these overt displays of Israeli power. There was no recognition that Oslo acknowledged a certain balance of power between Israel and the Palestinians – though much in favour of the former. The Intifada (uprising) on the West Bank and in Gaza after 1987 had shown that the Israeli occupation could not go no as before. Netanyahu's attitude appeared to be that Palestinian demands for human, civil and national rights had no mass support and that their denial strend have no consequences.

would have no consequences.

Netanyahu and his government still portray the crisis about the tunnel as a put-up job by Arafat. The Palestinian leader responded that if they were so sure he was exploiting the tunnel issue, why had they provided him with such an expectation?

in fact, any perceived threat to the Muslim religious sanctuaries had always led to a furinus Palestinian reaction. In 1990, 17 Palestinians were killed when they rushed to defend al-Aqsa when a Jewish fundamentalist group put up posters saying that they were going to take it over.

Prof Ezrahi says he fears that Netanyahu may not be an idenlogue nr a pragmatist, but a man uncertain of his own ends. He is against Oslo, but has nffered on alternative. "For three months he let uncertainty mount," writes Naham Barnea. "The punishment for the waiting was heavy: 70 vic-tims with 14 Israelis among them. A serious hlow has his Israel's economie future. There is a breach in relations with the Arab world. There is the fear of terror. Nn tunnel could possibly be worth this kind of punishment."

He would think that the

idea of the game was a) to

shout as loud as possible

even though you've got a

microphone and have nn need to raise your voice;

at the same time.

Party Conference,

funny nor exciting.

b) get the rest of the people

sitting in the hall to cheer all

That sounds a very boring

It is. Every year the BBC gets floods of letters about this new game show called

complaining that it is neither

ecommend that I get through

without having it drawn to my

The only way you can

the party conference season

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FREEPHONE 0800 200 210

Party Conference. Is that a new game show?



Miles Kington

Could you please explain the party conference season to me?
Yes. It is the continuation of the silly season by other means.

What is rilly cleart the

What is silly about the party conference season?
What isn't?
No, seriously, aren't the party conferences important?

Then what is the point of the conference season?
Well, if nothing else, it is proof positive that the different political parties can get together and organise

something properly.

What can they organise?
They can organise the sequence of the party conjust another.

sequence of the party conferences in ascending order of current importance, so that the tiddlers like the Greens and Plaid Cymru gn first, the middling minnows like the Lib Dems and SNP go next, then the hig boys come last. Is that all they can organise?

Is that all they can organise? Im
Yes. Nothing else.
Why do people take the
party conferences so seriously?
Nobody does. Except the
people who take part in
them and the people whn

them and the people whn report them. It is all part of one hig game called party politics, which is played by the politicians and the media people, and nobody else. You must never fall into the trap of taking the side of Anna Ford against Kenneth Clarke or vice versa, because Anna Ford and Kenneth Clarke are players in the same game, both pretending that party politics are really, really, really, REALLY important.

But they are not?

Lord bless you, no. Party
politics bears the same
relation to real politics as

Neighbours does to the

You mean, party politics is just another soap opera?

I'm afraid so. The only difference between party politics and nther soap operas is that whereas other soap operas are rehearsed and scripted in advance, party politics tends to be improvised and off the cuff. That is why it is so dreary. But it is also why people find it fascinating – because of the chance of a mistake or an unexpected gaffe.

Isn't it a great strain for politicians to improvise all the time?

Yes. And in fact they don't. Most of what they say and dn is tightly scripted. But they pretend it isn't.

Why are party conferences important?
They are not. They are simply morale-boosting occasions for the party

concerned.

Then why are they broadcast?

Because, as I was trying to explain, broadcasters and journalists and spin doctors and party politicians are all in the pretence together. It makes the media feel important to be given access to the conference hall. It makes journalists feel important to be taken on one side by a Cabinet minister or invited to some influential party. The rest of

us couldn't give a ross.

Party conferences are like
the Edinburgh Festival. If
you are actually there, it
seems the most exciting place
in the world to be. To the
rest of the world it means
nothing, and they can't see
why anyone covers it.

why anyone covers it.

Himm. Then who watches party conferences being broadcast?

Broadcasters. Party

politicians.

Nobody else?

Yes. The usual people who switch no daytime TV because they are bored.

What do they make of

What do they make of party conferences?
They assume it is some kind of game show they have never come across before, and they sit there for hours trying to work out the rules.
What would seem to be the rules of a party

conference to someone wim

thought it was a game show!

begin to guarantee it is by setting off on a yacht race round the world going the wrong away against the prevailing winds.

Good heavens. Were all those people setting off in the BT race down the Channel is been seen in the thorn seen in the thorn seen in the third to get the third the

heavy seas just trying to get away from the party conference broadcasts? I can't think of any other

I can't think of any our sensible reason. Thank you very much.

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L.J.OUJ

Labour's ruin or redemption lies with Gordon Brown

bat's happened to Gordon Brown? The opening of his speech vesterday fizzed with jokes. He has lost over a stone in weight, after punishing himself, typically single-mindedly, with a daily five-mile run on the treadmill of a Westminster gym. Close friends say he is suddenly more at case with himself. Is it that he's having more fun? He is. Is it that he has got a lot of his own way in the past year? He has. Or is it that be now subconsciously realises how utterly pivotal be will be to the man to whom he traumatically

yielded up the leadership in 1994? He will be.

There was a lot Brown didn't say yesterday. He said nothing about the top rate of tax and whether a new one will be imposed on those carning more than £100,000. He referred to monetary union only to bait the Tones. But, by foreshadowing integration of the tax and ben-chts system. Brown plans to conclude the quest that Nigel Lawson rejuctantly abandoned. We now know for certain that he intends to be a radically tax-

reforming chancellor. The commonplace view about Labour is that it is too timid to declare its hand about what sort of government it would be, Brown had done quite a lot even before yesterday to tell us what sort of chancellor he would be. in the process some blood was spilt, some bones broken. Brown can be charming and funny in private. He reads widely; he has a deep cultural hinterland. But he can be brutal when crossed. To still opposition to his relentless advance across the electoral battlefield, he has sometimes cajoled, as often bullied, his col-

leagues into line. The ending of child benefit for parents of the 16s to 18s is a case in point. For David Blunkett, now a ris-

ing star of modernisation, this was an opportunity - not least because it put him in charge of an educational allowance to help poorer children to stay at school. Blunkett became an ally. Chris Smith, then Shadow Social Security Secretary, objected, unwilling to accept that benebts for low income groups should be financed by removing them off the better off. Smith was summarily switched and replaced by Harriet Harman. The proposal was Brown's own. Blair backed it, but only after carefully weighing up the real electoral risks. The big advantage was that it helped to prove, first, that Brown was serious about containing spending. It was bold proof that ministers would have to save before they could spend. And, secondly, there was more than rhetoric to Blair's stated goal of reforming the welfare state. There had been a lot of warm words about tough choices. but this was the real thing. A dam was breached. Suddenly, it no longer looks so inconceivable that a Labour government might tax child benefit for higher-rate payers.

Brown's constant desire to give himself space as chancellor is apparent in the pre-conference deal he hrokered on pensions - a deal that leaves intact Labour's freedom to channel increases in pensions to the poorest rather than those who don't need them.

But it is evident, too, in his position on monetary union, that Brown is not as doctrinally committed to EMU as Kenneth Clarke. He has a deep sense of the potential of staying out. That's why, ideally, he would like a manifesto wording on EMU sufficiently in favour to allow a Labour government, if necessary, to claim that



Donald Macintyre

The fact is that without Brown the party's centre of gravity would start to slip, perhaps irrevocably, away from the modernisers. Blair would

be exposed

electoral victory gave it a mandate and that a referendum is unnecessary. He recognises that all the experience of previous Labour governments is to post-pone difficult decisions until it's too late - the IMF crisis of exactly 20 years ago being the

outstanding example.

A temporarily unpopular
Labour government might not win a referendum, especially one fought out against an anti-EMU Tory party. Brown's toughness, therefore, isn't in doubt. He is a driven politician, more so in some ways than his

You can quite easily imagine Blair leaving politics in the event, scarcely thinkable in the optimistic atmosphere of Blackpool, of Labour suffering its fifth defeat. It's almost impossible to imagine Brown doing so. And if yoo doubt his importance, simply consider for a moment a Shadow Cabinet without him. Robin Cook may dispute what he was reported as saying about the need not to sacrifice the poor to the desire for votes in middle England.
But be thinks it – and more.
Neo-Keynesian to the last, be is
the leading spokesman of the
left. Blair needs him, too, not only because of his abilities but because of the constituency he delivers in the run-up to the election. It is fortunate that Cook and Brown, the two cleverest men in the Shadow Cabinet, get on better with Tony Blair than they do with each other. It's fortunate, too, that for all the weekend tremors Cook is as single-minded about victory as his colleagues. But the fact is that without Brown the party's centre of gravity would start to slip, perhaps irrevocably, away from the modernisers. Blair would be

exposed in a way It would be impossible to imagine him being when he stands

up to speak this afternoon. Brown also knows how to translate the tough messages of modernisation into a language that the party can understand, has spoken for decades. It's apparent in the case of child ben-efit and pensions, where Brown has started to challenge, in terms distinctively of the left, the assumption that it is possible to have at the same time both universal benefit and redistribution.

Brown has started to show that ending some universal benefits can be a means of redistribution. Whatever its other virtues, it doesn't underpin social justice to - as he put it yesterday justify the wife of a millionaire receiving child benefit for a teenager over 16 when the mother of an unemployed teenager does not".

But it's apparent, too, in his familiar warning vesterday that rising inflation hits the poor hardest, or in the invocation of Aneurin Bevan to preach the tough language of phorities. Those in the conference hall yesterday who worry most about where Blair is taking them do not love Brown. But even they recognise the depth of his anger about unemployment. And they are beginning to recognise his central mes-sage vesterday that drastic tax cuts for the working poor can offer more bope than increases in demeaning benefits. They also know that he belongs to the tribe in a way that they are not quite sure that Blair does. It's fair to assume that after the leadership trauma of 1994, it can never quite be glad confident morning again for the Blair-Brown friendship. But it is indispensible for what Blair wants to do in power. Still the closest, it is now also the most important relationship in British politics.

There's just enough muck in Ambridge

by Emma Daly and Richard Smith

The bocolic bliss of a country childhood – it's an image that everyone shares, even those who grew up as townies. But sex and death are the facts of life and the sins of the 20th century exist even in villages, even in the fictional hamlet of Ambridge,

It was ever thus, but you would never know it from the lamentations of those protesting that The Archers, 46 years old, has shed its cosy, tradi-tional chintz and is rampaging naked through the garden of political correctness

The furore was sparked by William Smethurst, a furmer producer and author of a vitri-olic book attacking the pro-gramme's present editor, Vanessa Whithurn, and describing the show as "a ferment of greed, sexual passion and family discord, racial hatred and

mant, radical feminism". This comes as something of a sbock to the average listener, trying feverishly to remember an episode that could provoke such a lurid reaction - Lizzie's spats with Nigel Pargeter's mum? Neil Carter's almost-affair with the wicked Mo? Phil Archer taking up cooking? Radical? Perhaps Mr Smethurst means that many women work in Ambridge, some out-

side the house. The flames of the "Archers row" were fanned this weekend by claims that Tony Parkin, the agricultural story editor, is resigning because he, too, is fed up with the changes wrought in Ambridge. He declined to comment, but a BBC spokesman pointed out that Mr Parkin, who gave the show almost a year's notice, will be 70 when he bows out in November.

Yet, despite the complaints of Mr Smethurst, the reality in many rural areas makes the Ambridge of today's airwaves look rather like the village in aspic he aspires to. Bromsgrove, the model for Borchester, the town nearest to Ambridge in the series, offers mouth-watering fare for the Archers script-writers.

gested just a few of the local conflicts. The local Tory MP, Roy Thomason, has decided to abandon the battle for Bromserrove at the next election, after a business venture ran into financial problems. Council plans to build an arts, leisure and shopping complex on the town's recreation ground are also certain to spark local

Brian Carter - no relation to the fictional Susan and Neil has been burgled twice in the past year. "Bromsgrove used to be like a village, but now it's grown into a big town," Mr Carter, a taxi driver, said, "A lot of kids are taking crack, ecstasy and cannabis - even the 14-

Actually the drug abuse portrayed in The Archers is rather low key in comparison - the rebellious Kate Aldridge using marijuana and ecstasy, her boyfnend Roy disapproving of Ambridge, where punters tend



Tve been listening to The Archers for 40 years and I think the scriptwriters are being realistic'

it. A survey of school-children in East Sussex found that 20 per cent of 14- and 15-year-olds had tried an illegal drug. West Mercia Police recently

set up roadblocks in an operation to stop hundreds of partygoers from bolding a rave in a village near Bromsgrove, while the latest edition of the Bromsgrove Messenger tells of a 15year-old trapped inside a Metro after he crashed while being chased by a police car.

The whole atmosphere has completely changed. I've been listening to The Archers for 40 years and I think the scriptwriters are being realistic," Mr Carter said. "There is violence at weekends when people come out of the pubs." All of which is far worse than the type of trouble that bappens in

to slip in to The Bull for a single pint, rather than lounging around until closing time.

Much has been made by Archers' critics of the fact that the landlord of the rival Cat and Fiddle has been outed as a homosexual. Given the oftenquoted statistic that one in 10 men is gay, this does not seem excessive; not all gay men live in London or Manchester. And the town of Droitwich,

near Bromsgrove, boasts a vicar almost too exciting for The Archers. Apparently the Rev Ron Waters, angered by the building of 200 bouses on green-belt land, stormed out of a council meeting shouting "Hitler is back, Sieg Heil". I can't see Ambridge's (female) vicar going that far.

Mr Smetburst also criticised a story-line in which the Asian

the isolation felt by black and Asian Britons living in the country can be worse than the pressures of the city. Which leaves sex: A double

solicitor, Usha Gupta, is attacked by racist thugs.

"These things just don't hap-pen," he said. But they do, and

entendre last year between John Archer, who breeds organic pigs, and his girlfriend

Hayley Jordan — "I've got to get my pork set up"; "Oh John not in public"—upset Mary White-house ("It's a sad day when smut comes to Amhridge," she said at the time). How on earth did she cope in the 1960s, with, for example, the birth of Jennifer Aldridge's illegitimate child Adam? Or, for that matter, with Jennifer's four children by three men?

Rural life, the critics say, is just not as interesting as Radio 4's version. Tony Finn, a businessman in Bromsgrove, thinks "the scriptwriters have got it wrong if they are trying to project startling events they hope will appeal to townies and bigcity folk". He said the team should come down to the local pub and listen to the gossip".
adding that: "I suspect they
would find it all rather boring."

And so would the listeners. The Archers is not supposed to be a fly-on-the-wall documentary, it's entertainment, fiction. drama. Actually, though, the story-lines in *The Archers* are mostly concerned with all our daily cares - work, the family, love affairs, requited or not the writers bave always pulled dramatic stories out when nec-

essary.
It is no longer intended to educate farmers about warblefly, but in the recent past has addressed the BSE scare, the possibility that hadgers can infect cattle with TB and how

to deal with a bat infestation. But as it began in didactie mode, so it needed a story to sugar the pill. "People have this sort of fond memory of The Archers as being all cosy teas around the table at Brookfield. and what they forget is it was and what they torget is it was written for many years by the two writers who wrote *Dick Barton Secret Agent*," said Keri Davies, senior producer at *The Archers*. "They told people ripping yarns, and that is how they dragged them in as listeners."

In earlier years, listeners grappled with the death of Doris Archer in a barn fire, the revelation that a retired officer was in fact a British spy, and Tom Forrest's acquittal on manslaughter charges – he shot Bob Larkin dead in a fight shortly after the latter had made eyes at Tom's girlfriend Prue.

Despite the false memory syndrome so beloved of the British and summed up by John Major as warm beer and old aunts cycling, the countryside and those who live in it are just as red in tooth and claw as townies. And so are The Archers. But don't worry too much, Mr Smethurst - it's all

From our own 500 correspondents

shows once a year, at party con-ference time. This week the BBC has more than 400 staff at the Labour Party conference in Blackpool, and more than 500 converging on Bournemouth for the Conservative conference next week.

Even if the BBC offered wall-towall coverage (live coverage of the conferences is confined to a couple of hours morning and atternoon over four days), even if we generously allowed that some of that legion of accreditations were executives in suits down to the seaside to do a hit of gladhanding, that would be tar too many.

When the Director General's celebrated drinks party at the conference is costed, together with trains, hotels and meals, the licence fee-supported BBC will be unlikely to get much change from £1m. and that's excluding telephone and cable and salary costs. And the same again next week at the Tory conference.

The BBC says it can't give a total of those who "do politics"; nor does it bave figures for the total of "political"

The political hordes are only dimly cen the rest of the year, hecause there s a tacit agreement to keep it that way between MPs, the BBC and the newspaper lobby correspondents (some of whom get nice little carners from reg-ular BBC interviews).

The BBC has built a political empire, with many of its troops cos-seted in lavish studios and offices on Millbank, opposite the Houses of Parliament. Others are garrisoned in

Does John Birt's BBC really need so many political staff? The licence-fee payer should be told, says David Walker Broadcasting House, Bush House and

cracy by reporting the derring-do of parties and Parliament. Instead, there is a good case that the massive scale of BBC coverage merely diminishes the public interest in politics. Under BBC Westminster's empire-huilder-in-chief, Samir Shah, 110 fulltime journalists cover Parliament, overseen by 40 managers and assistants, with all the studio managers,

Television Centre. They are there to serve the public, enriching our demo-

engineers and technical staff to be counted on top. If Robin Oakley, the BBC's political editor, were to fall under one of the racehorses he writes about each week for The Speciator, at least 11 further BBC lohby correspondents could step in.

Tony Blair's press secretary, Alastair Campbell, stopped there in his recent complaint about how oppressive this weight of numbers can feel day to day. His sums need adding to. The several scores of people actually producing live official coverage of the Commons and Lords are separate and extra. There is the World Service - two dedicated British domestic political reporters, plus producers and reporters from various of the foreign language services who seem to think their audiences need on-the-spot coverage from party conferences.

But a full accounting of the BBC's

Current Affairs' 1,100 journalists (plus at least 150 freelances and part-timers, plus at least 750 studio managers and technical staff doing news-related work, plus 600 managers and assistants). How many of them are also pol-

Radio 4's Today, The World at One and the other "sequence" programmes on radio each have several staff working almost full-time telephoning ministers and their shadows and, when they will not bite, also-ran MPs. Then there are the (dozen) political spe-cialists employed by the BBC's Eng-But a full accounting of the BBC's lisb regions, plus another political political commitment needs to take in apparatus for both Wales and Scot-

land. Producers and reporters from local radio stations regularly arrive at Millbank to claim "their" slice of the

parliamentary pie.
On top of this small army, there is
the BBC Chief Political Adviser. Then there are the weekly programmes dip-ping in and out of politics to different degrees, such as Panorama, whose edition last night on spin doctoring inspired Mr Campbell to uncork his popular on BBC staff numbers.

Officially, "pollifical programmes" amount to only 505 hours of radio and

television output a year. But in fact, politics makes up a huge fraction of weekly programmes, including Question Time. On The Record, and news bulletins, "Politics is cheap," said one executive, not sardonically. But still the question hangs there: why so many?

The official answer - they are needed to supply the 11,000 hours of radio and television news and current affairs output - won't do. It is necessary instead to understand the BBC's unique system of internal competition. Radio Five Live wants a different

sound from the piece that you hear on the news summary on Radio 2. The PM programme on Radio 4 at five in the afternoon wants a different and fresher "angle" than The World at One, and so on, through to the Nine O'Clock News and Newsnight. This merry-go-round creates a "feeding frenzy" and a des-perate desire for novelty. No one stops

erage the nation needs.

The BBC's real problem is a fixation on party politics to the exclusion of matters of power and policy. Mr Shah bas been encouraged to expand and 500 people attend party conferences because those in control of its output demand yet more Westminster politics. And that reflects the iron in the BBC's soul: because it is, albeit at one remove, an organ of state, it is political from top to toe.

Let me here declare a personal interest, somewhat more serious than the fact that I, like Alastair Campbell, was recently treated to a BBC promenade concert and dinner afterwards. For two unhappy years I was the BBC's Urban Affairs Correspondent, the principal part of which brief was covering a different kind of politics, to do with local authorities, quangos, the politics of policy and spending. Did the editors of Today or the Nine O'Clock News want such stuff? Only to a very limited extent. Despite all the evidence that formal politics puts people off, the BBC churns it out.

Under John Birt, BBC News and Current Affairs has grown massively - by 9 per cent over the year to 1995-96. At the same time, public discontent with formal politics has grown apace, Tony Hall, chief executive of BBC News, admits that younger viewers and listeners are switching off in droves. The more people see and hear of their elected representatives, the less they seem to like. Could there possibly be some relationship

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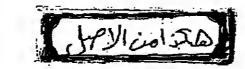
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BUSINESS NEWS DESK: tel 0171-293 2636 fax 0171-293 2098 UK banks falter over Eurotunnel debt deal



MICHAEL HARRISON

Eurotunnel shares were suspended yesterday as speculation mounted that the Channel tunuel operator will announce a deal on the rescheduling of its £8bn debt inountain in the next

Talks in London over the weekend between the company and representatives of its its 220strong banking syndicate al-most produced an agreement. But an announcement was prevented by the reluctance of leading British banks to accept some of the detailed terms of the restructuring which will see a

swopped for equity.
"We came within a whisker of

an agreement within the last few days," said one source close to the talks. "There is still a gap but it is bridegable. All the parties involved want a deal. It just requires one more heave.

The price at which the shares were suspended, 113.5p, is just 2p short of their high for the

Eurotunnel said it had requested the suspension pending an announcement from the President of the French commercial court who appointed two mandataires ad hoc to me-

large chunk of the bank debt diate between the company and its bankers earlier this year. The mandate of the two me-

diators, the former Cabinet minister Lord Wakeham and Robert Badinter, expired at midnight and has not been renewed. An amnouncement from the court is expected in the next two days.

The court has the authority to begin proceedings to place Euortunnel in protective administration, if there is no agreement. But observers believe it is more likely to give the the two sides a short period - perhaps 10 to 14 days - to reach a final agreement. The weekend talks, held on what was described as "neutral

territory" in London, involved Eurotunnel and the bank steering group. This comprises its Midland, Credit Lyonnnais and Banque National de Paris - the European Investment Bank and the European Coal and Steel Community.

On Friday, the Eurotunnel board will meet as will its key 25strong committee of instructing banks who represent the views of the rest of the banking syndicate.

Sources suggested last night that this could pave the way for an announcement at the beginning of next week.

"The chances of a deal being done finally are better than even," one said. Three weeks ago Sir Alastair Morton, who retires as co-chairman of Eurotunnel at the end of October, said the "architecture" of an agreement was in place. He dded that there were about eight hours of negotiations left which is why he had given him-self another eight weeks to

complete them.
Since then talks are understood to have progressed quick-er than expected. One observer said the two sides were "five eighths of the way down the track."

are said to bave been keen to reach an agreement before the mandate of the two mediators expired. But the Britrish representatives are understood to bave baulked at the terms.

Under the rescheduling deal, the banks will swop part of their of their debt for a 49 per cent stake in Eurotunnel and exchange a further portion for convertible bonds. What remains to be agreed is the precise amount of debt that will be exchanged and the price at which the bonds

convert to shares. Conversion of the bonds would give the banks control of

The two French agent banks the company but Eurotunnel is holding out for an option be redeem the bonds should it meet certain revenue targets, allow ing it to prevent further dilution of its existing shareholders.

The Anglo-French consortium suspended interest payments on most of its £50n of debts a year ago. Since then it has racked up another £370m of interest which has not yet been paid. The debt standstill runs until April of next year but all sides appear to accept that unless agreement on resched-uling can be reached by the end of this month, then the courts will

World-wide shake-up of Rothschild dynasty

Financial Editor

The Rothschilds are poised to announce a big reorganisation that will mark a step on the road towards integrating the banking dynasty's world-wide businesses.

The expected changes are part of a long awaited management shake-up to deal with increasing competitive pressures in the investment banking industry.

A new group investment banking committee, chaired by Baron David de Rothschild, is to coordinate the family's corporate finance businesses in London, Paris, the rest of continental Europe, Hong Kong. Singapore, Australia, North America and Latin America.

Baron de Rothschild, 53, was the talented French banker who resurrected the banking fortunes of the Rothschilds in Paris after the family's French bank was nationalised by in 1981.

He became deputy chairman of NM Rothschild, the London merchant bank, in 1992. His new role makes him the hot favourite to succeed Sir Evelyn de Rothschild as chairman of NM Rothschild, the London merchant bank. Sir Evelyn is the senior banker in the Rothschild famiAs part of the wide ranging changes planned at Rothschild. Baron de Rothschild is to become chairman of a newly established company in London, NM Rothschild Corporate Finance, which will liaise with the rest of the empire through the new worldwide investment bank-

Separately from the moves on the investment banking front, there are also plans to give a clearer identity to all the bank-ing businesses in the Rothschild empire owned by the family's Swiss holding company, Rothschild Continuation Holdings.

The balance sheets of the individual businesses are eventually to be published on a group wide basis, which is likely to reinforce the trend towards running the family businesses as a coordinated entity, However, this is a delicate and difficulty op-eration, and does not include Rothschild & Cie, the French business, which does not belong to the Swiss holding company.

Russell Edey, the present bead of corporate finance in London, is to become deputy chairman of NM Rothschild Corporate Finance, the new London business set up under Baron de Rothschild's chair-

Mr Edey described the new

group investment banking committee committee as "coordination rather than integration,' and made clear that it resulted from the rapid changes under way in the investment banking industry over the last couple of

He added "Unless you take maximum advantage of the strengths and opportunities that are open to you, in my view you become one of the also-rans, and we have no intention of being one of the also runs."

Mr Edey's job as head of corporate finance will be taken by two joint chief executives, Tony Alt and Keith Palmer, aided by three other senior members of the management team, Richard Davey, Philip Swatman and Charles Alexander, all of whom will be managing directors.

The changes in London are expected to include a decision by Bernie Myers, the most influential of the bank's four managing directors, to move into a back seat role.

As part of the changes, Rothschild is thought to be about to hire at least one new corporate finance executives to join its

The London shake-up follows the departure of a series of senior executives in corporate finance and metal trading from NM Rothschild earlier this year. John Bishop, the bullion specialist, went to UBS as did Michael Phair, a privatisation specialist, and Anthony Fry, a corporate finance high flyer went to BZW.

This led to reports of widespread dissatisfaction with Sir Evelyn's rule at the bank, which from being one of the top flight firms in London has been overshadowed by the rapid growth of buge integrated investment banks with enormous capital resources. With Schroders, Hambros and Lazards, it is one of a handful of independents left in London.

The bank was also hit by the suicide of Amschel Rothschild, head of the fund management side, who hanged himself in a Paris hotel room. Although said to have been an heir apparent to Sir Evelyn, it is thought high-ly unlikely that be would ever have succeded to the head of the

Baron de Rothschild, although running a bank that is outside the mainstream of the family businesses because he and his father set it up themselves in the early 1980s, was a more likely contender to take over once he took the deputy chairmanship in London four years ago.



Changing faces (clockwise from top left): David Rothschild, new corporate finance chairman; Sir Evelyn de Rothschild, chairman of the bank; Lord Waleham, former cabinet minister on the board; Amschel Rothschild, fund management chief who committed suicide

merger scrapped DAVID USBORNE

\$5bn

The proposed \$5bn (£3.2bn) merger between ADT, the Bermuda-based commercial and home alarm giant run by Michael Ashcroft, and Republic Industries, a relative newcomer to the electronic securities field, has been

scrapped.
Originally announced in July. as a stock transaction, the deal had been considered doubtful for some time because of volatility in Republic's stock value, Meanwhile, Western Re-sources, a US utilities company that holds 24.3 per cent of ADT, had also made plain its opposition to the merger.

Its collapse will bring embarrassment to Wayne Huizenga, the chamman of Republic, who is famed in the US for his aggression in building businesses. Mr Huizenga is the mogul who forged the Blockbuster video retail empire which he finally sold for \$8.4bn.

Since assuming control of Republic last year, at the time a sleepy waste handage business, Mr Huizenga has engineered more than 30 acquisitions, turning the company into a combine with security, waste haulage and used-car interests. The absorption of ADT, already the largest security firm in the US, would bave transformed Republic into the unassailable

leader in the sector.

ADT, chaired by Mr

Asberoft, saw its shares dip on the news in early trading in New York yesterday by \$1 to \$18.875. Shares in Republic were pushed

up slightly.
The delay in completing the transaction forced both companies to put business expansion plans on bold for too long," Mr 🗢 Ashcroft said in a statement. Both companies will now be free to resume their individual business plans.

Analysts will watch Western Resources, which may be in-terested in taking majority control of ADT.

The merger, that had been cheduled for completion before the end of the year, was probably doomed last summer when shares in Republic tumhled from a high of \$29 when the deal was first announced to lows of around \$20. Thus, the returns that had been promised to ADT shareholders, including to Western Resources, suddenly seemed deflated.
"Despite both companies

lise in hou

mes may s

34

mitial enthusiasm about this transaction, we now have agreed that this combination is no longer in the best interests of our respective companies," Mr Huizenga said in a state-

IMF to agree interest | Sky aims for BBC pay-TV equity payments by Christmas

There is gold pouring into the Treasury. Not the real thing, unfortunately. Thousands of postcards shaped like gold ingots have been sent by supporters of Oxfam to praise Kenneth Clarke, Chancellor of the Exchequer, for his role in the initiative to reduce the interest that the world's poorest countries must pay on their deht.
The initiative will not at first

be financed by the sale of some IMF gold, as Mr Clarke had advocated. But the initial financing was agreed during the weekend and the \$5.6bn (£3.6bn) package received its final approval at the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund yesterday. The Chancellur also backed

a proposal by Renato Rug-giero, head of the World Trade Organisation, to take the relief of poverty in developing countries to its next stage by abolishing tariffs on their exports. He said: "We need to give poor countries the chance to grow through access to world mar-However, the trade liberali-

sation proposals could prove controversial as at least two of the G7 countries, France and the US, lean towards protecting their domestic industries from Third-World competition. Those two countries have been pushing for international trade

11902.43 +143.04 +1.2

Hong Kong

Uganda and Kenneth Clarke are two beneficiaries of a plan to reduce debt in

goods made by children or by

Negotiations on the debt reduction plan will start with Uganda, the first beneficiary. Officials said yesterday they hoped to have details agreed by Christmas and the debt reduction under way by 1998. Uganda's interest payments will be reduced by some \$80m a year. Its record of sound economic policies has earned it a place at

The aid charities welcomed the acceptance of the deht re-

11902.43 10204.87 3.45†

2666.55 2253.36 1.74†

Source: FT Information

the Third World. Diane Coyle reports

forced labour.

the bead of the queue.
Other countries could have to

wait up to six years. The initiative is meant to rescue extremely poor countries from the trap of debt so hig that their interest payments are greater than they could ever pay. About 40 borrowers, mainly African, are in this position, and about half could be eligible for relief from the new debt initiative. They include Burundi, Cote D'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Guyana, Mozambique and Nicaragua.

agreements to incorporate minimum labour standards, which would close western markets to spokesman for Oxfam International, said: "This is an historic breakthrough that offers real hope and opportunity. But the extent to which the hopes are realised depends on how quick-

ly countries now start to get the debt relief." Mr Clarke said the rules for eligibility must be applied with common sense and flexibility. He said lenders had to be sensible. "In the past, too many of the richer countries were prepared to lend to poor, already indebted countries for projects that did not add to their capacity

to grow," he said. In a separate meeting of the IMF's Interim Committee, finance ministers issued a statement stressing the importance of sound fiscal and monetary policies and structural reform in a multi-point statement dubbed the "Eleven Commandments" hy Michel Camdessus, the IMFU's managing director. It placed emphasis on "achieving budget balance and strengthened fiscal discipline in a mul-

two independent documentary doesn't make sense. BSkyB has which pay-TV operators see as film commanies have been another chance to carry the new potentially highly lucrative.

BSkyB, Rupert Murdoch's satellite giant, is gunning for an equity stake in the proposed £200m Flextech-BBC pay-TV joint venture, sources said last

It is understood that BSkyB will seek a significant share in the planned eight channels, in exchange for agreeing to offer them to its 3.8 million direct-tonome satellite subscribers. If its intentions are spurned,

BSky could elect to develop competing channels in advance of the Flextech-BBC launch, particularly arts and documentaries, as a spoiling tactic. At least

Britain's smaller bookmakers

were yesterday counting the

stock market cost of jockey

Frankie Dettori's record seven

wins at Ascot on Saturday. The

25,095-1 feat forced Stanley

Leisure to issue a profits warn-

ing while shares in bookie min-

now Surrey Group lost a quarter

of their value to close at 0.75p.

Stanley Leisure said the Det-

tori wins would cost the group around £2.25in in its first-half re-

sults to 28 October. Two of its

proached by BSkyB to discuss developing a new channel.
The BBC has said it was

against inviting BSkyB to participate in the pay-TV venture. which would see up to eight new BBC-branded pay-TV channels introduced by next summer. But Flextech, owned 51 per cent by John Malone's TCI, is helieved to be more flexible. A source said last night: We nev-

competing channels was rejected last night as a negotiating tactic by the Flextech source. "It's the kind of thing

any of us might do, but it

from "this unprecedented situ-

ation", trading to date in the rac-

ing division was satisfactory with turnover and margins im-proved on the same period last year. Stanley Leisure has more

than 500 ontlets after acquiring

Surrey Group, which is trying

the Gus Carter chain in May.

to diversify away from betting, said Saturday's events would cost

it £100,000 with two customers

Testerány Boy's clag . Hear Ago

22.88 -0.23 16.15

channels without taking any of the [financial] risk, and we are sure they will see it that way." BSkyB, which is the leading

pay-TV player in the UK, has sought equity stakes in many of the channels it has offered through its multichannel package. It has a 50 per cent share of Nickelodeon, the children's channel, as well as stakes in Playboy, QVC and Paramount. er rule anything out."

It is also a 40 per cent sharethe threat of introducing holder in Granads Sky Broad-

casting, which launches seven new pay-TV services today. BSkyB had been competing

The company said that apart bets. No one would take them."

in exchange for non-voting shares in Flextech, must be completed before Flextech's proposed joint venture agreement with the BBC can go ahead. This is because UK Gold currently bolds the exclusive pay-TV rights to BBC library programming.

against Flextech for the right to develop the BBC channels,

He said the company was in-

troducing fruit machines to its

betting offices and developing

a golf course which will open in

He was speaking as Surrey Group announced widening

losses of £4.66m in the year to

March. This compared to a

£17,000 deficit last year. The op-erating losses were £1.3m added

to £3m of property losses and

holes Latest Yorkyn Mest Figs

153.1 2.10c 149.8 10 Oct

Stanley to lose £2.25m after jockey's wins £100,000 while 27 others had placed bets yielding five-figure returns.

again." said Surrey Group's Company secretary, Paddy Boler and freak results for one of its worst years in betting. Hower and freak results for one of ever, it said trading since the end of March had shown some recovery with tight cost control eading to better margins.

Meanwhile, it emerged yes

terday that a crucial side deal

by Flextech, to consolidate its

boldings in UK Gold and UK

Living, was still "a long way" from being completed.

The deal, which would see

Pearson and Cox Communica-

tions of Atlanta sell their

minority stakes in the channels

John McNair, chairman, said initial results from introducing amusement machines to betting shops had exceeded expecta-

ment of his own. L MERCURY STILL 20% CHEAPER YOU FIND THE BEST BARGAINS IN

netting £24,000 each, "Hopefully punters had won more than write-downs licf plan but expressed concern Surrey Group blamed the ti-vear framework". £200,000 and another won we'll never see anything like that STOCK MARKETS INTEREST RATES **Honey Market Rates** Rond Yields 1996 High 1996 Low Yield(%) Long Board (50) there has \$ (Landon) 1.5634 -0.03c 1.5897 FTSE 100 3977.20 3632.30 3.94 6.25 8.04 £ (London) 0.6396 +0.01 0.6300 .7.79 FT\$E 250 \$ (N Yorko # 1.5630 unch 1.5871 E (N York) # 0.6398 unch 0.6290 0.44 0.59 1816.60 3.83 2.62 DM (London) 2.3846 +0.12pf 2.2693 DM (London) 1.5253 +0.10pt 1.4299 2244.36 1954.06 3.13 Germanv 3.06 FT SmallCap ¥ (London) 174.124 + Y0,848 159.634 ¥ (London) 111,375 +Y0.56 100.585 +1.07 +0.11961.01 1791.95 3.78 FT All-Share 5901.77 +28.85 +0.5 New <u>York '</u> +9.38 +0.0 22666.80 19734.70 0.74† Price (c) Charpe (c) Charge & Falls

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'Clare Spottiswoode has nothing to lose by standing firm whereas British Gas cannot be sure of gaining anything by going to the MMC'

It's not too late for British Gas to reconsider

to modify significantly her final set of price controls over the TransCo pipeline business, Dick Giordano and his merry men intend to stomp off and put their case to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

It is important, at this point, to note that we have been here many times before. Recent history is littered with examples of how privatised utilities have been irreconcilably opposed to proposals by their regulators. only to cobble together some miraculous accommodation at the last moment.

This time, however, it does look like more than a game of brinkmanship. The two sides have become so entrenched in their attitudes and uncompromising in their public utterances that it is hard to see how either can back down without beavy loss of face.

The regulator, with one eye on survival after the next election and the other on the £28 cut in hills she has dangled before domestic gas users, believes she has right on her side. The company maintains it cannot accept the Ofgas proposals even if it wanted to. Quite apart from amounting to expropriation of assets, they would render TransCo incapable of running the pipelines in a reliable and safe manner. Not much room to cut a deal there.

monopoly markets and, lest we forget, demerge into two separate companies.

It was in part these distractions that scuppered the deal in Scotland with Hydro-Electric, and yet here is British Gas prepared to submit itself to a six-month MMC inquiry. For Ms Spottiswoode, on the other hand, this is pretty much the only game in town save for the other price review she is conducting into the supply arm of British Gas. She has nothing to lose by standing firm, whereas British Gas cannot be sure of gaining anything by going to the MMC.

It is still not too late for the board to reconsider. It may gain a little loose change by going to the MMC, but this is unlikely to counteract the lost management time and opportu-nity involved in tying itself up for six months or more in such an all-embracing investigation.

Credibility problem for NM Rothschild

NM Rothschild has experienced such a flood of losses from its senior ranks in recent months that to describe the forthcoming rait of changes as a "management shake-up" The difficulty for British Gas is that this is seems a bit of a misnomer. It may be more just one of the many fires it is fighting. Its of a case of management patch-up. But how-

Despite its good name, Rothschild has a growing credibility problem as it approaches the millennium. It is not large enough to play with the big boys of international investment banking, nor is it small and specialist enough to thrive as a niche player. Scandal at both Barings and Morgan Grenfell has further weakened the position of the small to medium sized player; traditional City merchant banks seem not only to be particularly prone to the antics of rogue traders, they also lack the financial muscle to survive them when they do fall victim.

There will always be a demand for the smaller player, but where real money is involved clients are going to be increasingly wary of those without the capital to weather a major hit. This is a bad enough backdrop for the likes of Rothschild. On top of that insiders complain about a lack of direction. and they worry about the succession to the autocratic, and occasionally volatile Sir Evelyn de Rothschild. The asset management operation meanwhile remains difficult.

The link up with ABN Amro on the capital markets side is only a partial answer to Rothschild's problems. To some extent it fills the gap in distribution created by the sale of Smith New Court to Merrill Lynch, but whether either party will find this a satisfac-

going to be any kind of an answer to the struc-tural problems described above.

It would be wrong, however, to start read-ing the last rites for this historic City institution. The world may be an inhospitable place these days for the independent, family-controlled investment bank, but as Schroders has shown, with careful, switchedon management, it can be made to work. Whether David Rothschild, if he is indeed heir apparent, can accomplish the trick is another thing. He was family hero for revivant he change to be a second to be ing the dynasty in Paris in the early 1980s, but London is a rather different environment.

Put Brent Walker out of its misery

There was a nice irony in little Frankie
Dettoristinging William Hill for £8m even
as Ray Hinton, a bean-counter from Arthur
Andersen, was concluding that the bookie's owner, Brent Walker, was due £36m from Grand Met. Taking with one hand while you pay out with the other is part and parcel of a turf accountant's life even if the numbers involved are usually more modest.

As ever with Brent Walker, the figures themselves are an irrelevance. It is no com-

Chort of an about-turn by the laughing regDulator (Clare Spottiswoode), the board of
British Gas looks to be gearing up for n major sense of hierctor general of Ofgas agrees
Unless the director general of Ofgas agrees

Unless the director general of Ofgas agrees

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Unless the director gen in 1989 was exactly half the original claim filed by George Walker's former empire against Grand Met. This has the appearance of a good old fashioged British fudge and, after deducting a provious debt owed the other way, the net result is a pilling initiant for Grand Met and abovely noticeable source of

Grand Met and a barely nonceable source of relief for Brent Walker.

The second sweet from is that Brent Walker, of all companies, in its time the doyen of creative accounting, should be the beneficiary of a restrongerive clampdown on artificially inflated profits. Before Professor Tweedle rode into town, the sort of acquisitions and the careful acquisition of the contraction and the careful acquisition. tion accounting applied to Hill was de rigeur.
You could hardly ask for a company better qualified than Brent Walker to spot it.

The resolution of this spat does nothing to the resolution of this spat does nothing to change the underlying facts of Brent Walker, which is a company with assets worth less than £000m and liabilities of more than £1.4bm. Clarifying the value of William Hill may make it easier for a sale to be negotiated, but the fact remains that Brent Walker as a whole has no future. Even assuming some worth in the accumulated tax losses of a company that has notched up more than £1.7bn of red ink over the past five years, it continues to be a mys-tery why the shares have any value at all, let alone that they should jump 40 per cent, as they did yesterday. A death this slow is a painful specialist. Why don't the banks put Brent Walker out of its misery?

Hill dispute costs Grand Met £36m

TOM STEVENSON City Editor

Grand Metropolitan is to pay £36m to Brent Walker in settlement of a six-year-old dispute over the price the leisure group, run by former boxer George Walker, paid for the William Hill bookmaking chain in 1989. The decision by an independent arhitrator from the accountants Arthur Andersen yesterday clears an obstacle to the final dismemberment of Brent Walker. which has struggled under a mountain of debt since soon af-

ter the ill-fated Hill acquisition. The dispute between the two companies hinged on the profitability of William Hill at the time of the acquisition, which Brent Walker claimed was lower than Grand Met, then headed by Lord Sheppard, warranted. The arhitrator, Ray Hinton, agreed that the profits on which the consideration should have been based were £45.8m and not the £55m figure that was used ns the hasis for calculating the £085m price tag for William Hill.

As a result of the shortfall in profits. Mr Hinton said Grand Met owed Brent Walker £117.5m, about half the £235m originally claimed by the leisure group. That was to be offset, however, by a sum of £82m which Brent Walker owed Grand Met. A previous court case had ruled in 1991 that Brent Walker should pay over £50m it had withheld from the original consideration

plus interest. A spokesman for Grand Met said yesterday the company would abide by the arbitration and take the £36m as an exceptional hit against the current year's profits. Brent Walker said it was seeking a meeting with Grand Met to resolve several other issues, including a claim

for hreaches of warranties. The ruling in favour of Brent Walker follows a decision last week in a Paris court that the company should pay £6m to its former chairman. That dispute arose from a £20m loan made by Mr Walker to the company in 1989 to help it pay for the William Hill purchase. The rul-

ing threatened to trigger a promise from Brent Walker's largest lender that it would put the company into receivership rather than put in any fresh funds, although the bank appears to bave stepped back from that ultimate sanction.

Attention now focuses on the future of Brent Walker, which recently wrote down the value of its last two remaining subsidiaries, William Hill and the Pubmaster pub chain, to £570m which compares with the company's debt burden of more than £1.4bn. Rumours continue to swirl

around the company. Bass and Stanley Leisure have both been linked to William Hill but are thought to bave lost interest in the 1,650-stroog chain which might raise £500m in a sale. Meanwhile a trade sale of Pubmaster is understood to have beeo abandoned and venture capital groups are being lined up for a possible £160m deal. Flotation next year is another option. Brent Walker's shares closed Ip higher at 3.5p yesterday.



At odds: George Walker, left, and Lord Sheppard, who used to head Grand Met

Lane checks out of Holiday Inns

TOM STEVENSON

Tim Lane yesterday resigned with immediate effect as president and chief executive of the Holiday Inns hotel company owned by Bass. His departure comes just six months after he took the helm, having been re-cruited from PepsiCo amid a fanfare of eulogies from Sir Ian'. 'à cléar leader in global hospi-

mental differences about the manner in which the business should be managed." One analyst said the departure of Mr. Lane had probably followed a major falling-out with Sir Ian. Holiday Inn. which is the Bryan Langton, chairman of world's largest single hotel Holiday Inns, will take over Mr. brand, had risen during the

oined Bass in February after 15: years at PepsiCo, where the 47- fallen 5.5p to 779.5p.

year-old American had been president of Asia and the Middle East for PepsiCo Restaurants International, He bad been responsible for more than 2,500 company-owned, jointventure and franchise restaurants throughout the region.

At the time of his appoint-ment, Sir Ian had said: "Being Prosser, chairman and chief tality is a major element of executive of Bass.

The company would only say shareholder value. With Timyesterday. There were fundar tane joining us, I helieve that we have the continuity of lead-ership in Holiday Inn to drive the business forward."

A part of a recent trading

statement, Bass said profits at Lane's duties. Second half year, although at a
Mr Lane, who will receive an slower rate than in the first half. second half year, although at a unspecified amount of com- Yesterday's announcement pensation for loss of office, came after the close of trading. during which Bass's shares had

Legal case hits Imperial shares

MAGNUS GRIMOND

Analysts expect shares in Imperial Tobacco and Millennium Chemicals, two of the demerged husinesses of the Hanson conglomerate, to start trading at the bottom end of original forecasts when dealings hegin today and tomorrow. Sentiment has been hit by a resurgent legal campaign waged hy lung cancer sufferers and an increasingly difficult outlook for the chemical industry around the world.

One estimate vesterday suggested imperial would today open in the range 365p to 375p, some way below last week's "grey market" price, Millenni-um, meanwhile, is trading at

arouod \$26 a share on a "when issued", or grey-market basis, in New York, compared with hopes that the shares could be priced at up to \$35. Full trad-ing in the US-listed stock is expected to begin tomorrow.

The higgest impact has been last Friday's news that 40 former smokers in the UK who suffer from cancer were preparing to launch a class action against Imperial. The move is a land-mark in that it is the first to he pursued on a "no win, no fee" basis. US investors, who hold around 30 per cent of Hanson's shares, are thought likely to be nervous about the legal moves. But Gareth Davis, Imperial's chief executive, yesterday dis-

house prices had risen sharply, this was not a "damaging

Separately, a survey by Equitax, the consumer credit in-

formation service, yesterday

showed that UK consumers

naid off their finance deats taster in the past three months

than a year ago. The Equifax

figures reflected suggestions

from many building societies

that borrowers were using low-interest rates to pay off their home loans at a faster rate.

Nationwide's report suggest-

ed that property transactions

while buyers bad found more

properties on the market to

match their surge in demand.

sure on prices. Mr Williamson

said: "The exceptional rate of

growth seen in recent prices is

still struggling to find a buyer.

Although confidence is much

improved, the deht overhang of

the early 1990s may continue to

dampen existing homeowners'

from FirstMortgage, a tele-

phone lender, whose survey of

borrowers showed that more

than 70 per cent did not believe prices would rise beyond 3 per cent, barely above inflation, in

Backing for this view came

"Poor-quality properties are

unlikely to be sustained.

In turn this had relieved pres-

missed the case as a continuation of one of several which had been mounted against the company since 1992. "We have great confidence in the strength of our defence. We will defend the claims with great vigour," he said. The situation had not changed, as far as Imperial was

concerned, he said. One analyst claimed however, that the move "will affect the receptiveness of the market to Imperial". He suggested the issue, which has dogged tobacco companies operating in the US since the 1950s, could become a higger factor for Imperial in the future.

Meanwhile, investors are not year. expected to be particularly wel-

coming towards Millennium, which has seen prices peak in the market for its chemicals, used in the plastics industry. Heavy selling by UK institutions which do not want to be exposed to the US stock market is also likely to affect the price.

One observer said: "I don't think North American commodity chemicals are massively in vogue at the moment. The technical position is also adverse at the moment and will remain adverse for some time." He cited the selling which took place after US Industries, a heavilyindebted grouping of American husinesses was floated off last

Investment Column, page 19

"MJN Has Always Produced Solid And Reliable PCs"

PC Home Magazine

Rise in house prices may slow

boom".

NIC CICUTTI

The upward surge in the prop-crty market showed no sign of abating vesterday as Nationwide Building Society released figures showing that house prices rose by 1.4 per cent in September. The society's monthly index

also indicated that over the past 12 months prices had risen by 6.7 per cent, well ahead of original expectations and the largest year-on-year rise since 1989, when the market col-

Average property prices ed that property transactions across the UK at £54,334, are had risen in recent months. at their highest since August 1991, Nationwide's report is expected to be similar to a survey by Halifax Building Society. which is out today. This is likely to show a buoyant market, although prices may not rise by the same amount.

Philip Williamson, Nationwide's corporate development director, said he did not believe the rapid growth was likely to survive much longer.

The apparent strength of house prices in recent months continues to reflect distortions caused by shortages of quality properties in certain sectors of the market," he said. "[These] are giving a short-term boost to prices while severely limiting

He said, bowever, that while the next 12 months.

IN BRIEF

 Unilever said it would combine the businesses of its Thomas J Lipton and Van den Bergh Foods companies in the US, creating a subsidiary with annual sales of \$3bn (£1.9bn). The move came as a result of a study Initiated in June and would enable Unilever to "compete more effectively by becoming a more efficient and profitable business," said Richard Goldstein, Unilever North American Foods chief executive. Unilever will formulate a detailed plan for the merger by Chiefman. a detailed plan for the merger by Christmas.

• Senior Engineering has agreed to sell its Thermal Engineering division for £28.5m. The husiness is being bought by Thermal Engineering International, a new company financed by, among others. Citicorp Venture Capital and interests connected to the family of Richard Grogan. In the 1995 year, Senior said the Thermal Engineering division made £1.6m of operating profits on turnover of £118.8m, but ran up a toss of £237,000 on sales of £61) 7m in the half year to June £60.7m in the half year to June.

 Granada Sky Broadcasting, the joint-venture pay-TV service, launches today with seven new channels, including Granada Plus, a nostalgia channel featuring programmes from the Granada and London Weekend Television libraries. The service will he available to BSkvB's 3.8 million dish subscribers and to some cable customers. However, Telewest, the country's largest cable operator, said last night it was still committed to canvassing its subscribers before agreeing to carry the service.

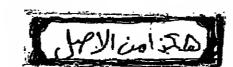
• September M0 in the UK rose by 0.2 per cent, roughly in line with economists' forecasts, and took the annual increase of notes and coins in circulation to 7 per cent. UK final M4 money supply was up 1 per cent in August from July.

 Barclays is to inject 31bn yen (£177m) into its subsidiary BZW Securities (Japan) to support its growth and increase its presence on the Japanese government bond market.

 Rolls-Royce said its joint venture with Mersey Docks and Harbour had won a \$155m (£99m) port terminal contract in Argentina. The contract is to operate, maintain and develop an iron ore and coal bulk import terminal and steel products export terminal at San Nicolas, on the River Parana 150 miles north of Buenos Aires, on behalf of steel company Siderar.

 The Office of Fair Trading is inviting comment by 14 October on whether the acquisition by Stagecoach Holdings of Hyndburn Transport, based in Lancashire, qualifies for investigation by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.





Dettori's winning streak may cost bookmakers £30m

FT-SE 100 3953.7 +7.3 FT-SE 250 4391.1 -15.1 FT-SE 350 1969.8 +1.4 SEAQ VOLUME 695m shares. 44,244 bargains Gilts Index

93.73 -0.16 SHARE SPOTLIGHT share price, pence Hersey Docks

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It was not quite the crash that stock market pundits had been alone. Stanley's shares closed 7p lower at 235p. expecting. Instead of dealing room floors, the drama of 'Black Saturday" was played out at Ascot racecourse, where popular jockey Frankie Dettori created turf history by riding all seven winners on the card at accumulated odds of over 25,000-1, leaving bookmakers

to nurse record losses. Like the death toll from an earthquake, estimates of the damage done to the betting industry rose almost by the hour. Before the stalls opened on another week's trading, analysts reckoned the bookies had been stung for £10m, with ABN-Amro Hoare Govett suggesting Ladbroke, Britain's biggest bookmaker, was in for £2.5m. But those figures soon looked like wishful thinking after Stanley Leisure. a smaller player, issued a Stock Exchange statement saying Det-tori's win had cost it £2.25m

By early afternoon, estimates of the total hit had soared to £30m, with William Hill, owned by Brent Walker, £8m out of pocket and Bassowned Coral £4m poorer as a result of Dettori's winning streak. Shares in Bass ended 5.5p off at 779.5p but Brent Walker, buoyed by a deal with GrandMet that settled a long-running dispute over William Hill, closed 1p higher at 3.5p.

Ladbroke was still counting its losses last night but through gritted teeth a spokesman said Dettori's achievement was good news for the industry in the long run as it had raised the profile of racing. Ladbroke's shares finished 2.5p higher at

MARKET REPORT PATRICK TOOHER

shares fell 0.25p to just 0.75p
after reporting increased loss538.5p. Analysts said the share

Utilities were also under the whip as political worries resurfaced. Investors took fright over fears, reiterated yesterday in Blackpool by the shadow chancellor, Gordon Brown, that an incoming Labour government would im-pose a windfall tax on the pri-vatised monopolies. Electricity and water shares were hardest shares finished 2.5p higher at 209.5p. A reminder of the havoc caused to the hetting industry by the National Lottery, rather than Dettori, came from bookmakers Surrey Group, whose and Water snares were narcest and w

run a port terminal in Argentina for the next 12 years. However, shares in Mersey Docks marked the first anniversary of a bitter dispute beprice slide was prompted by tween the company and 329 sacked dockers by sinking 14p to 370p. There were ugly concerns that the tax might be

up to £10bn. Away from the utilities, the stock market ended the third quarter on a quiet but positive note amid selective buying of other blue chips. The FT-SE 100 index reversed an early 12point loss to end the day up 7.3 Shares in GKN rose 21p to

1121.5p on news of the engineering and automotive components group's £100m contract to sell the German government seven Super Lynx helicopters.

Rolls-Royce, 4p firmer at

239.5p, also benefited from port on the progress of talks becontract news. It has formed a tween the company and its umn on Saturday, shares in joint venture with the overseas consultancy arm of Mersey Docks & Harbour to land a \$155m (£100m) contract to Matthew Clark, still reeling

from the alcopop wars, enjoyed a rare day in the sun, rising 19p to 337.5p on talk that Guinness might soon make a bid. The recovery came despite the cider maker reportedly dismissing the story as "equivalent to a ru-mour that B52 bombers have been found on the moon". News that UK Active Value the fund run by Julian Treger

and Brian Myerson, had picked almost 8 per cent of Kenwood pushed shares in the household appliance maker 11p higher at 218.5p. Shares in Burger King fran-chisee and motor dealer Gowrings raced ahead 16p to

Mersey's shares have fallen by 100p, or than a fifth, since the dispute began. Elsewhere in the transport 92.5p after Guinness Peat said sector, shares in Eurotunnel were suspended at 113.5p at it hoped to make a recommended offer of not less than 90p. Guinness Peat is already the start of trading and are like-Gowrings' biggest shareholdly to remain so until a French er with a 14 per cent stake. court gives its reaction to a re-

scenes yesterday as a group of

20 demonstrators occupied

the roof of the company's

headquarters in Liverpool but Mersey Docks said the port continued to work normally.

TAKING STOCK

umn on Saturday, shares in Goodwin moved sharply higher after the tiny foundry business reported a surprise 800 per cent profits advance to just over £2m. Shareholders get a special "loyalty" dividend, making a 17.94p total against 0.655p. The shares soared to 105p from 60.5p on the news aimed March from 33p since March.

☐ Ammex gained 3.5p to 58.5p. The oil and gas group has placed some 6.9 million shares, or 15 per cent of its enlarged share capital, with the International Finance Corp, at 57p. The IFC, the equity arm of the World Bank, is also granting Aminex a \$17m nesecured loan facility. The funding will belp Aminex finance development of the Kirtayel oilfield in Russia and the El Biban oilfield off Tunisia.

Prices are in sterling except where stated. The yield is last year's dividend, grossed up by 20 per cent, as a percentage of the share price. The proce/earnings (P/E) ratio is the share price divided by last year's earnings per share, excluding exceptional stams. Other details: r Ex rights x Ex-dividend a Ex all u Unisted Securities Market's Suspended. The Independent Index The index allows you to access real-time share prices by phone from Sear, Simply dail D891 123 335, followed by the 4-digit code printed next to each share. To access the latest financial reports dial 0891 1233 followed by one of the two-digit codes below. nyone with a tone-dial telephone can use this service. For a detailed descrip with a core-case assignment can be seen as a seen as a modernt index, including its portfolio facelty, phone 0881 istance, call our helpline 0171 873 4375 (9.30em - 5.30pm). Market leaders: Top 20 volumes 670000 Burton 650000 National Grid 580000 Role Royce 560000 Reillrack 580000 Uloyde TSB 3850000 Vodelone 1570000 EAT Inds 12800000 British Energy 10800000 British Szeel FTSE 100 index hour by hour Open 39476 up 12 09.00 39364 down 100 11.00 39375 down 8.6 | Constraint | Pat According to the control of the cont 7 88 500 6 5 Electronics

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Revised deal could Imperial emerges in good shape end stalemate on Refuge merger

JILL TREANOR Banking Correspondent

THE INDIVISION

AKING STOCK

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Refuge's planned £1.4bn merg-er with United Friendly, which has been bogged down for weeks over rows with institutional shareholders, appeared to be making some progress towards a conclusion last night.

Britannie and Prudential, which have 10 per cent and 6 per cent stakes respectively in Refuge, said they would back a revision to the deal that resolves a dispute over the value of socalled orphan assets.

Orphan assets - a surplus on life funds - are a common problem for insurance companies, both in terms of valuation and in attributing ownership to

Refuge now plans to issue a new security which aims to put a value on the orphan assets. Each Refuge shareholder will receive three new securities for every one Refuge share, which will be convertible into ordinary shares of United Assurance the intended name of the merged company.

However, a shadow is still cast over the merger by Perpetual, the fund manager and a big shareholder in Refuge, which says it has yet to make up its mind about the revised deal. Neil Woodford, a senior fund

manager at Perpetual who rohustly objected to the original merger terms, was unavailable for comment yesterday. While he was said to be en-

couraged by Refuge's new ap-proach to the orphan assets, he apparently still harbours some reservations. Sources close to Perpetual said he would probably make a firm decision on whether or not to sanction the revised deal later this week.

Paul Dayus, assistant investment manager at Britannic, said he had always understood the logic of the merger. "We believe these new terms ... have addressed a potential prob-



Confident: John Cudworth believes the merger can go ahead

John Cudworth, chief executive of Refuge, said the new speextended for another two years.

sue of the new security satisfies the concerns raised by our major shareholders and I look forward to the completion of the

merger." Mr Cudworth said. The new securities will not be listed but will transferable and Mr Cudworth thought it was possible that some of the large market makers may be prepared to make a market in the shares. per cent.

Refuge, which has so far had only a tiny amount of accepcial securities would have a life time of six years which could be extraordinary general meeting extraordinary general meeting for later this month to vote on "I am confident that the is- the merger and the issue of the new securities.

Most of United Friendly's shareholders have accepted the

Refuge's interim results, also released yesterday, showed ordinary periodic premium business rose 14 per cent in the first half of 1996, reaching £7.9m. Industrial business, though, fell 6.1

less than fanfare. News of the separate listing of Imperial and its three Hanson stablemates has done nothing for the shares of its erstwille parent, which have slumped 26 per cent since the four-way

demerger was announced in January. The first day's trading in the shares was marred by Friday's announcement that 40 former smokers are suing Imperial Tobacco, claiming it failed to warm sufficiently about the links between smoking and cancer. Up to now, the UK's second biggest cigarette group has got off lightly in the US litigation scares. That said, for the politically incorrect

investor Imperial has plenty to recommend it. Despite claims that Hanson bought companies as an asset-stripping exercise, Imperial is in fine shape after 10 years within the conglomerate's sage machine. Capital expenditure has run at over 150 per cent of depre-ciation in the past five years and the group is regarded as one of the most efficient cigarette producers in the world, with operating margins approaching 50 per cent. A further £35m times-year in-vestment programme in ultra high speed manufacturing and packing equip-

ment is half completed. Admittedly, the demands of investment have not been particularly oner-ous for a group whose already prodigious profits are almost entirely converted to cash. In 1995, for instance, despite paying out £25m on capital investment and tax, the group generated cash of £346m out of operating profits of £348m. In future, the group will face a rapidly escalating tax charge and will labour under £1.06bn of deht loaded on as part of the demerger terms. That will take some time to clear, but pro forma interest cover for 1994-95 remains a comfortable 4.7 times.

Investors may find more reasons to fret in the over-ripe state of the UK tobacco market, into which 90 per cent of Imperial's sales are made. Cigarette consumption has been sliding gently at 2 per cent a year over the past four years under the impact of the Government's duty increases. In cigars and handrolling tobacco the slump is running at 6 and 10 per cent a year.

But having been knocked off its perch at the top of the UK market by Gallaher, it has recovered strongly since 1990, bouncing back from a share of under a third to 38 per cent now, within two points of the leader. The key to future success lies in breaking into Europe and developing markets overseas, particularly the Far East, where BAT has blazed the trail. On an opening share price of around

The return of the Imperial name to the stock market today after a 10-year absence has been marked by something

EDITED BY TOM STEVENSON

<u>IMPERIAL TOBACCO ; AI A GLANCE</u>

375p, Imperial stands on a forward multiple of under 9, based on BZW's forecast profits of £335m for the current year. With a forecast yield of 7.3 per cent, they are worth holding.

Chez Gérard is beefed up

It's been quite a year for Groupe Chez Gérard. A flurry of acquisitions that have more than doubled the size of the company and demanded a massive refurbishment programme, the return of bombs to its central London heartland and a collapse in the public's confidence in beef, one of the unashamedly car-

nivorous group's staples.

To have increased profits by 23 per cent to £2.86m and earnings per share by 28 per cent to 10.8p in those circumstances is an impressive performance. Share-holders were rewarded by a 17 per cent jump in the dividend to 2.8p and a 6p rise in the share price to 242.5p.

Five year record 1993

Operating profits (Em)

Dividends per share (pence) -

UK cigarette market share

Chez Gérard appears to have pulled off that most difficult of tricks, bring-

ing the economies and efficiencies of a chain to a group of individualistic and (reasonably) upmarket restaurants. The plan is to double again in the next three years, as they have in the three since flotation, while retaining the restaurants' character.

The investment case for Groupe Chez Gérard hangs on three main vari-ables. Will the economic background remain favourable, will the trend towards eating out continue and does the company have the resources, financial

and management, to benefit fully?

There would appear to be plenty of evidence of rising consumer confidence, at least in the short term, and figures from the Henley Centre suggest a social sea change is occurring that will see us spend a much larger proportion of our disposable income on eating out than we ever have done before. We still

lag way behind France and the US.
As for management, the appointment of a new, full-time finance director is a sensible step forward, as is that of a new general manager for the Chez Gérard brand. With only nine restaurants, all within London, this is still a manageable company - even

Hanson share price

twice as big, it would not stretch the current team too thinly.

On the basis of forecast profits of £3.4m this year and £4.1m next time, the shares stand on a prospective price/earnings ratio of 19, falling to 15. Compared to other companies in the sector, and measured against a growth rate of more than 20 per cent a year, that is not too demanding and the shares remain good value.

Oasis shares are proving fertile

Oasis Stores has been a storming investment since floating last year. Placed at 148p in June, the women's fashion chain's shares have comfortably doubled, even after yesterday's 13.5p dip to 392.5p. The group appears to have overcome its legal difficulties with former owners Graham and Edwina Brown and is thriving on an increas-ingly successful trading formula. Pre-tax profits came close to dou-

bling in the 26 weeks to July, rising from £2.61m to £5.19m in the period, with earnings per share up a third to 6.47p

from a pro forma figure of 4.86p.

The figures were driven by new shops and healthy like-for-like sales growth of 10 per cent. Over the year to July, the group had opened 22 more stores, including concessions, raising the to-tal to 92, with a further eight added since the period end. But even with most of those outlets being in the UK, Oasis believes there are still at least 50 suitable sites where the group is not represented in the domestic market, Overseas, it has just begun to scratch the surface in Germany and in the Gulf.

But all of this frenetic activity would hardly be justified without a strong underlying market, and it would appear that, so far, Oasis has hit the mark. The underlying 10 per cent growth has continued into the first eight weeks of the new year and brokers are looking for profits to jump from £9.87m to £14.3m in the full year. That puts the shares on a heady p/e of 22.

The market may be right to be cau-tious. The company is looking at diversifying its distribution and is talking to potential partners about the Inter-net and mail order. But that will not be enough if the notoriously fickle youth market at which Oasis aims is suddenly turned off its designs. Just conceivably, Sears may be tempted to hid, given its ownership of the Warehouse chain, a former vehicle of the Bennett brothers who now run Oasis,

Rank sells its engineering interests for £72m

MAGNUS GRIMOND

Rank Organisation, the Butlins to Hard Rock Cafe group, yes-terday kicked off its planned £300m disposal programme. with the £72m sale of Rank Precision Industries, an engineer-

which Rank agreed to buy last week in a £113m deal, athough

"It's a hig book. It's got val-ue for our memhers," said

Trevor Bayley, finance director

society had paid for the -

mortgages. He said said it was one of the

society's largest deals and did

not rule out further acquisitions.

"If we see a transaction which

However, he noted, there

looks like good value we would

:- consider it.

they will initially be used to reduce borrowings. Rank's shares added 1p to 428p yesterday.

The four businesses grouped under Rank Precision Industries The proceeds will help pay for two management buy-in teams for the deal. The consideration comprises fi3m in cash and comprises £63m in cash and £9m in loan notes.

Britannia buys loan

portfolio for £1.1bn

are being sold to Schroder Ventures, the venture capital armof Rank's merchant banking ad-

The sale follows the shake-up of the business instigated by Andrew Teare, who took over as chief executive earlier this year. As well as laying the groundwork for the sale of its £1hn-plus stake in the Rank

Xerox copier group, Mr Teare last month unveiled plans to dis-pose of £300m of peripheral assets over the next two years. He said yesterday: "Our strategic review in August clear-

ly identified Rank's focus on that a £75m buyout led by a for- factures telecine equipment, leisure retailing and film and entertainment services. RPI's engineering husinesses do not fit within this strategy."

There was no news yesterday other operations earmarked for sale, which include the Shearings holiday coach firm and Kingston Plantation, a US holiday business. Rank would make no comment on reports lighting, Cintel, which manu-

mer director, Angus Crichton-Miller, was the preferred bidder

Yesterday's sale involved four businesses which are said of progress on the sale of the to hark back to Rank's days as a film maker. RPI comprises Taylor Hobson, a maker of precision measuring equipment, Strand Lighting, in-volved in theatrical and studio

and the electronic display products division of Brimar. The digital projection husiness, formerly part of Brimar,

is not being sold. Taylor Hobson, Cintel and Brimar are to form a new group, Precision Instruments, which will he headed by Phil Tempest. Strand is to form a separate £21m deal led by Jim

Britannia Building Society yes-terday bought a £1.1bn mort-gage portfolio from Citibank, the US bank, expanding its intends to write to the 30,000 Citibank customers whose mortgages it now owns in the next few weeks to inform them overall mortgage book to how their mortgages will be f10bn, writes Jill Treaner. administered. The mortgages cover a range of properties throughout the country and the loans range of the Britannia, declining to from variable rate to special disclose the how much the loans for customers with small Citibank Customer Bank is

left with £500m of mortgages in its portfolio, which it intends to keep.
The mortgages it sold to Britannia were for customers who only use Citibank for their mort-

gage and no other service.

This transfer brings our UK However, he noted, there are few other mortgage port-folics of this size for sale on the market. Citibank customers will will market. Citibank customers will market. Citibank customers will market. Citibank customers will market. Citibank customers will ference to the way their mortgages are handled. Britannia sumer Bank.

deposits and fixed-rate deals.

On Tuesday 8th October, BT introduce a telephone table everyone will appreciate.

THEY THINK

IT'S ALL OVER ...

TV luminaries wish Bottomley would keep her appointments

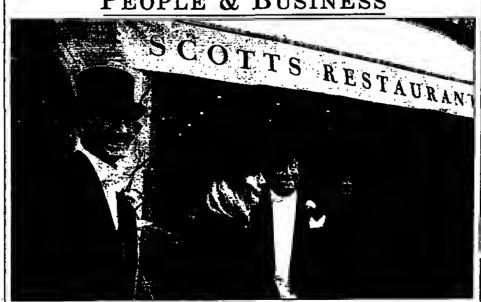
Virginia Bottomley is not winning any friends in televi-sion circles, if last week's events are anything to go by. The National Heritage Secretary invited a group of televisiou luminaries to her offices last Wednesday, asking them to bring along their "wish lists" for what the government should do for the broadcasting sector.

The time was set at 5.30 and broadcasting notables such as Bruce Gyngell of Yorkshire Tyne Tees, Nigel Walmsley of Carlton and Steve Morrison of Granada Media turned up on the dot.

Mrs Bottomley, sadly, did not. She arrived at 5.50, spent another five minutes fussing around trying to find an underling to join the throng, and then amnounced she would have to leave within 10 minutes for another en-

The wish lists never even made it out of the guests' lapel pockets. Mrs Bottomley devoted the entire 10-minute "meeting" to a finger wag-ging lecture about digital television.

The new "Big Cat" logo at the legal firm Osborne Clarke has caused a hit of a "to-do" among M'Learned Friends. Osborne Clarke's is one of the few legal practices to have a logo of any sort. And Leslie Perrin, a senior partner, was keen on the designer's Panther-style image because it. represented something different. "Most law firms are still into quill pens and geezers in wigs," he said. "It is as if longevity and tradition are all they are prepared to sell. Well, we were founded in 1720 hut we think that speaks for itself. We wanted somePEOPLE & BUSINESS



Top hats and white ties: Chez Gérard's management trio step out to promote Scotts

But the "Big Cat" image immediately sparked a wave of "Fat Cat" jokes. Mr Perrir was sent five cans of cat food every day for a week as well as a steady flow of mail, complimentary and otherwise. The cat food will not go to waste. Mr Perrin has eight cats after one of his moggies presented him with six kittens the other week.

Management at Group Chez Gérard, the London restaurant group, put ou the glad rags yesterday to promote the relaunch of Scotts, the Mayfair restaurant, which reopens next month.

Neville Abraham and Laurence Isaacson donned top hat and white tie for the photos. The new finance director, Clare Whitley, was asked thing that was more modern." I to sport the same kit too.

man stores to accommodate the fuller figure of the Teu-tonic fraulein. The new size has since been introduced in

In Taiwan, however, the

Dress size news from Oasis, the women's fashion chain led by Michael and Maurice Bennett. The company has had to "go up a size" in its new Ger-16 has proved successful and the UK stores too.

company has had to indulee in a bit of garment "downsizing" or "shrinkage". There, the smaller Oriental physique has required smaller sizes to be added to the range.

Cantor Fitzgerald recorded a convincing victory in the Reuters City Sevens rugby challenge in Richmond on

"It's one way of getting her in trousers," Mr Isaacson said.

Sunday. The Cantor team, which included two Harlequins players, thumped last vear's winners. Lloyd's of London, 33-19 at the Richmond Athletic Ground in Surrey. Almost 2,000 spectators watched humiliations such as Cantor scoring 52 points against Ernst & Young. The event raised £8,000 for Sparks, the children's charity, and even Ernst & Young salvaged something from the wreckage of their afternoon. They went on to win the plate for firstround losers. The event organiser, ex-Hoare Govett broker Keith Shepherd, declared the event a triumph. "It was the first time in 15 years that all the teams have

turned up."

Nigel Cope

Shares in computer group DCS jumped 28p to 225.5p yesterday after a leap in profits for the year to June from £610,000 to £2.37m. Earnings per share increased by 66 per cent to 8.31p and the board is recommending a final dividend of 1p, making 1.5p for the year. Robin Lodge, chairman, said: The three legs of our business are now well established and the integration of the management teams is complete. The current year has begun very well with a strong order book, a well balanced portfolio of products and services and the best list of prospects we have ever enjoyed."

Celsis International, the specialist in rapid microbial testing for the quality assurance market, launched an £11.1m rights issue yesterday to fund the proposed £11.2m acquisition of Lumac, another microbial testing company. At the end of August Lumac had net assets of £2.65m and made profits before tax of £1m in the year to that date. The 3 for 20 cash call is underwritten by Panmure Gordon at 100p a share. Celsis's shares closed 1p lower at 112p.

· Stuart Wallis, former chief executive of Fisons, will become chairman of Yorkshire Group from 1 October. He replaces Philip Lowe, who has been chairman since 1987. Michael Greenhalgh, group managing director, said: "Stuart Wallis has a proven track record in the development and implementation of global business strategies. We are especially pleased to have secured his services."

 Personal Number Company, which provides a call forwarding service so that individuals or businesses can keep one phone number even if they move, jumped to a big premium on its first day of dealings on the Alternative Investment Market. Placed at 66p, the shares valued the company at £10.2m, well below initial expectations of about £15m. The shares closed at 101.5p.

	COMPAN	Y RESULT	S	
	Tornover £	Pre-tax £	EPS	Dividend
Aspen Camme (1)	38-31m (37.03)m	1.04m (1.63m)	4.5p (7.6p)	2.5p (7.6p)
Bearose Corp (1)	67.88m (67.68m)	3.89m (3.16m)	6.85p (6.23p)	5.35p (4 84p)
Clase Brothers (F)	- (-)	45.11m (33.98m	(24.8p (22.2pp)	10.0p (8.5p)
Community Heap (F)	59.61m (63.43m)	10.7m (8.5m)	21.8p (17.9p)	10 Op (8.Bp)
inchcape (I)	3.16bn (3.13bn)	75.3m (18.6m)	7.3p (-2.4p)	5.25p (7.50p
Mairon Estryy (F)	46,61m (15.82m)	15.27m (5.84m)	4.41p (2.96p)	0.67p (0.48p
Progdingt (1)	35.22m (38.85m)	2.52m (-£5.79m)	1.4p (-8.4p)	NII
Regard Iters (F)	31.77m (22.0m)	8.01m (4.43m)	8.8p (5.1p)	2.2p (1.4p)
Szboli (1)	119.4m (109.7m)	-21.9m (11.8m)	-31.6p (10.0p)	3.0p (2.8p)
\$16 (I)	115.8m (117.4m)	14.22m(12.05m)	9.6p (10.2p)	2.4p (2.2p)
Tractice (I)	113.9m (106.2m)	4.51m (3.1m)	3.1p (2.3p)	0.8p (0.7p)
T&S Stores (I)	348.4m (216.5m)	8.78m (8.06m)	8.35p (8.35p)	3.0p (2.6p)
(F) - Final (I) - Interior	(M) - Nine months			



Time to change the rules of the fiscal game

ne of the oddities about can congress, though one finance ministers is that rather cowed by President Clinfinance ministers is that they never say that one of their aims is to increase the national debt. But virtually all of them do it.

There are nearly 200 countries who have sent finance ministers to Washington for the annual meetings of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank. Only a handful (on a quick tally, fewer than 10) ran a budget surplus last year. The most important single thing that finance ministers do is to set the appropriate balance between taxation and public

spending. By their own stan-dards, virtually all fail.

When people du the oppo-site of what they say you can call them hypocrites. But that is a touch unfair. What is wrong is surely not so much human failure, though there's enough of that, but system failure. Something is very wrong with the way that tax and spending policies are determined throughout the developed world. It is an issue of enormous importance and if you want to choose a time when it has come to a head, this is the moment.

In the past few days there have been budgets, proposed or agreed, in four of the group of seven countries: the US, Germany. France and Italy. All had deficits, but all produced budgets which, in theory at least, cut those deficits.

Fiscal "responsibility" is the mood of the hour. These cuts are taking place for different reasons. In the US, a Republi-

ton's poll lead, has a deal which a leading Republican, Bob Liv-ingstone, called a downsizing of government. For the first time in modern history, we have reversed the course of government. We have begun down-

What is wrong is not human failure, but system failure

The three European countries have all cut their deficits to try to meet the Maastricht requirements, although not

France and Italy. As for the other group, expect quite sharp tightening in Japan next year and, to judge by Kenneth Clarke's comments in Washington, a respectable further cut in the UK deficit come November.

So everyone's tightening. If you want to see a parallel. think about the mood of monetary policy in the early 1980s. Everyone agreed that something had to be done about the inflationary explosion of the 1970s and gradually, painfully, order was restored. Through the 1980s a set of guidelines was established that countries could use to maintain monetary discipline: money supplied targets; inflation targets; greater independence for central banks, and so on. Now the

same is happening to fiscal pol-



ECONOMIC VIEW HAMISH McRAE

cealed or ignored. Changes

are being made to try to im-

prove this in a number of

countries, the UK included.

But the fact remains that coun-

tries are run with a set of ac-

counts that would disgrace a

medium-sized commercial

company, let alone a multi-

Two changes in particular are

needed. One is to have figures

for unfunded liabilities: things

to which a government is com-

Liffe Financial Futures

What are these rules? The balance sheet liabilities conlearning process has only just begun. The IMF has just set up a working party to look at the usefulness of various types of fiscal rules hut this has yet to report. Still you can see some of the ideas that are around.

The place to start is decent and honest public accounts. Budgets are still drawn up nn a year-by-year basis with maybe some projection for the next three or four years, projections which frequently turn out to be over-optimistic. Capital spending and current spending are multi-year budgets so that people can see the long-term consequences of decisions that are taken now.

Once there are decent accounts you can start to think of rules. These could be self-imposed on a country-by-country sis rather in the way that Gordon Brown has proposed some rules for the future Labour ehancellor. Or they could be imposed by some external bod-ies like the European Union.

The EU is now debating the form that discipline might take on member governments that ran excessive fiscal deficits post-European Monetary Union. But both these ideas are unsatisfactory. There's nothing stopping a government breakits own rules. And if the Maastricht convergence crite-

liabilities. The other is to have idea of European Union fines for a country that happened to break the diktat of the EU bureaucrats. But something has to

be done. In the case of monetary po icy what has happened is that, to some extent, decision-making has been taken away from politicians. It's been passed to

Governments should not have the right to run large deficits

more-or-less independent central banks and, in practice, also to the world's financial markets. I suspect that the same sort cal policy.

Countries might establish some kind of independent body which would oversee the budgetary process. Other bodies might look at segregating social security funds so that these funds were free from po-litical interference. It would not be possible for a government to raid people's savings to deliver tax cuts, even though those savings were morely part of a general social security

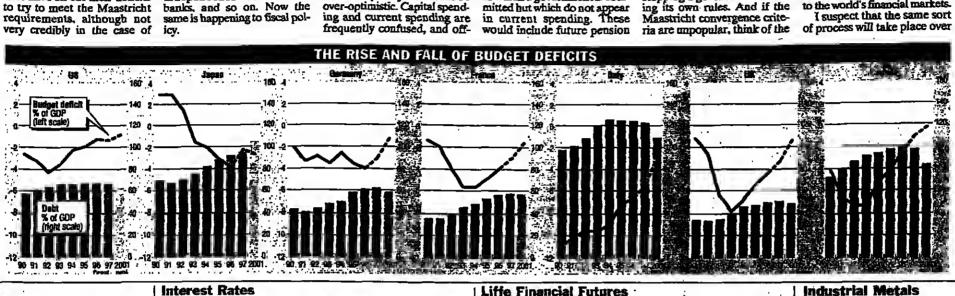
contributions budget.

The markets will help too. for the more that responsible fiscal policy becomes the fashion, the more the markets will punish governments that run large deficits by whacking up long-term interest rates. The IMF may, at the margin, also help by sketching some kind of good governance practice.

But maybe the biggest change has to be in social attitudes about the proper extent and role for elected govern-

We will come to think of government as not having the right to run large deficits: this is something which ought not to be part of the political process, just as we regard politicians now as not having the right to interfere with the judicial process. Wise politicians will recognise this and re-

spect it. Evidence that such a seachange has begun? It is thin, I admit. But we, and I mean the whole developed world, not just the UK, can't go on as we are.



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UK Growth Inc	3032	3225	2.72
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Higher Inc Inc	4371	4651	
Gitta/Fed Int Acc	2108		d5.75
Glita. Facilitating	93.09	98.31	
Nih America	3860	4107	000
Europe Japan Tst Acc	3518 4610	364.7 49.05	d0.36
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European 8d Acc European 8d Inc	164 9756	1010 1010 1078	568 2.81 2.63
European Bd Apo European Bd Inc Exempt F7SE 100 500 General	194 9756 83.75 1010	1010 1010 1078 1078 5602	6.68 6.68 2.85
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Europeiin Bd Acc Europein Bd Inc Europei Europei FTSE 800 300 General Property Trustee Cash Acc Cash Inc Cash Inc	1644 9756 83.75 1010 5728 268 2654 2278 1241 1000 1130	1910 1910 1978 5602 3502 3633 3438	6.68 5.69 2.53 52.36 52.37 52 2.34 65.1 65.0 65.0 65.0 65.0 65.0 65.0 65.0 65.0
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Europein Bd Acc Europein Bd Inc Europei F7SE ICO 500 General Property Trustee Cash Inc Destbusion Eutra Income Gdt & Fod Int ^a Income Income Income	1984 9756 83,75 1010 5128 245,4 2278 1241 1000 1130 1130 1130 1130 1130 1130 11	1716 1912 1778 1602 2633 2438 1241 1000 1348 1480 1480 1480 1480 1480 1480 1480	668 538 263 6238 6239 52 234 651 651 6606 471 6786 461 6536
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Europein Bd Acc Europein Bd Inc Europein F7SE ICO 500 General Property Trustee Cash Acc Cash Inc Detribution Extra Income Grit & Fol Ins* Income Income Bulter Ind Crowth Truste - UK Capital	1984 5756 8375 1905 5128 2454 2278 1900 1383 5845 5890 6852 7161	6226 1710 8929 1778 5602 2633 2438 1241 1000 1136 1480 8050 6299 7351 7678	6688 508 285 2623 5223 652 652 652 652 652 652 652 652 652 652
Europein Bd Acc Europein Bd Inc Europei FTSE ICO 500 Genenal Property Trustee Income Trusta Cash Inc Distribution Extra Income Gft & Fixt Int ^a Income Bdt & Fixt Int ^a Income Growth Trusta - UK Capital Growth Acc	1984 9756 8325 1010 5128 2454 2278 1300 1330 1330 1330 1330 1330 1345 5845 5890 6850 7181 1430 4302	6226 6929 6778 6602 2633 2438 1341 1000 1386 1480 6050 6259 7357 7678	668 506 285 263 6236 522 234 651 651 6536 478 4786 4786 263 263 263 263 263 263 263 263 263 26
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Dettori closes in on Arc partner

Racing IOHN COBB

All precautions were being taken yesterday to prevent the unthinkable prospect that Sunday's Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe might take place with the man of the momeot, Frankie Dettori, watching from the sidelioes. The participation of his regular mount, Classic Cliche, remains in serious doubt and the list of

alternative rides is a brief ooe. Classic Cliche missed a gallop on Sunday after looking duli Vermeille over the Arc's course in his coat and a verdict oo and distance on her most recent

rope's most important race was due to be made after the colt cantered waste due to be made after the colt cante Now the decision has been deferred, leaving Dettori's agent, Matty Cowing, with the problem of ensuring that his man is not left behind when the other possible rides are snapped up.
"We've been offered the ride

oo Khalid Abdullah's Sunshack, Rae Guest rang this morning about My Emma and John Gosden's Tamure is still in the race," Cowing said last night. My Emma, who woo the Prix

cost would be £52,000, roughly half her earnings from the

> RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Spillo (Newmarket 1.30) NB: Chivairic (Newmarket 4.20)

Vermeille, and the decision would have to be made oo Thursday. Easy ground is required if she is to produce her de Saint-Cloud.

Lellouche charge had drawn up-sides the leaders. "Helissio gave Dettori, meanwhile, has

Helissio, beaten just once in his career when refusing to settle in the French Derby, has
gained his biggest wins in the
Prix Lupin and the Grand Prix

at Association Saturday, the now
heads the market, at 6-4 (from
8-1 before Saturday's success),
to win the BBC TV Sports Personality of the Year. Dettori has

as a freelance mirrors that of his

predecessor at Nicholashayne,

Richard Durwoody. Widely de-

scribed as the best job in jump racing, the role was unable to

winner was put through his er this month. Trained especially paces over 10 furlongs under with the Arc in mind, Helissio Olivier Peslier, who was not took the Niel in good style hard on his mount once the Elic from Darazari, another of his ri-

me a good feel and was very re-laxed," Peslier said. moved into another favourite's role following his seven-timer role following his seven-timer at Ascot on Saturday. He now relegated the Olympic rower in his coat and a verdict oo whether he would run in Eu
and distance on her most recent onting, would need to be sup
the Arc's course best.

After the latter win in July, Steve Redgrave to 13-8 joint the Spanish-owned colt was second favourite with Damon came through his final piece of given a break and successfully

Hill.

have influenced Bridgwater's

decision. At the same time, the

powerful Lambourn stable of

Kim Bailey, without a retained rider after the departure of

2.05: Abon Zonzwon the Gir

short odos to win mis for the same trainer-jockey combination that took this prize 12 months ago. There is a question mark, howev-er, whether this colt will appreci-

ate today's extra furlong on a much

stiffer track. Perhaps the value lies

with each-way support for SWISS LAW, who seems sure to last this

seven furiones well. Kieren Fallon's

dozens more suffered injuries when they were allowed to roam free on the downs in order to escape the blaze which occurred in the middle of the night. Two horses are still undergoing treatment at Ridgeway Veterinary Horse Hospital in

Lambourn.
Of the 26 horses still at the vard, which stables the Champioo Hurdle winner Collier Bay, 10 are still being treated as walking wounded while the others are waiting for rain to bring softer ground before they return to the track.

Man held

in Old

fire case

A 42-year-old man has been ar-

rested on suspicion of arson in

connection with the fire that

claimed the lives of four hors-

es at Jim Old's stable two weeks

took a local man into custody

to question him about the cause

of the fire which ravaged a

Four horses, including the

high-class hurdler Backgammon, died in the fire, in which

Castle in Wiltshire

barn at Old's stables at Berbury Swale is 13-2 (Coral) - Lad-

Swindoo police yesterday

provide enough winners for Norman Williamsoo, could Bridgwater to overtake McCoy prove a source of rides. HYPERION'S Stakes on fast ground at York six weeks ago and is sure to start at short odds to win this for the same



3.45: The French filly Pas De Re ponse is an interesting challenger but it is difficult to see past the un-Ridge by an easy five lengths at Newmarket.

McCoy is Pipe's stand-in after Bridgwater resigns

tired due to diabetes - the

trainer has no plans to name a

replacement and will use the

best jockeys available in com-

ing weeks. "There's no rush to

get anyone else as most of my better horses won't run until we

Thosy McCoy is likely to be the immediate beoeficiary of David Bridgwater's decision to resign as first jockey to Martin Pipe. McCoy, the champion National Hunt jockey will be selected to a permanent position with the stable may again come into consideration now that Bridgwater's decision to resign as first jockey to Martin Pipe. McCoy, the champion National Hunt jockey will be selected to the stable including Gold to

and Tauntoo this week. The Ulsterman auditioned for the role of stable jockey at Nicholashayne a year ago when the job weot to Bridgwater and

1.30 Dear Life (nb)

The jockey's decision came as ride Pipe's runners at Exeter a "total surprise" to the champion trainer, who learned of the resignation on Sunday just hours before Bridgwater issued a statement announcing the split.
"He phoned me at 5.45 last

NGK Spierk Pluge Rated Hran - Newmarket 134 Spillo (I. Cumani 9at3in) Spillo (I. CommuSi(34)) 100-30 4-1 7-2 2-2.

Beroard Dentit (Lord Hardington/Si(120)) 8-2 9-2 7-2 3-2-| Description | Vaugnesler (R Hannon/Set7lb) 19-1 20-1 16-1 38-7

onio (C Bennein/Set7ft) 20-1 25-1 25-1 20-1

Each way a fifth the odds: places 1, 2, 3

NEWWARKEN

HYPERION

GOING: Good to Firm. STALLS: Far side. DRAW ADVANTAGE: None.

Right-hand course with 1m 2f straight. Rowley Mile course.

Recourse is 5W of town on A1304. Bus link from Cambridge and Newsparkes stations. ADMISSION: Cath S14 (16 to 25-year-olds 58); Grandsmad & Paddock 510 (18 to 25-year-olds 55); Silver Ring 53. CAR PARK: Members £1; remainder free.

■ LEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: H Cecil — 68 winners from 282 runners gives a success ratio of 24.1% and a loss to a 51 level scale of 58.02; J Gooden — 65 winners, 373 runners, 14.7%, -573.16; R Hannon — 50 winners, 580 runners, 8.87%, -5238.26; L Cumant — 34 winners, 236 runners, 11.9%, -5123.88.

Beyond Doubt faced a difficult task in the Park Hill Stales at Doncaster and should be

Beyond Doetst faced a difficult task in the Park Hill Stakes at Doncaster and should be sudged on her half-length second to Better Offer (winner on Sunday) at Ascot in July, Leading Spirt, a neck behind Beyond Doubt at Ascot, went on as win at Kempton, beeting FIZEMELIAMS a length and a quarter, and there might not be much between those two. The lighty recod-FizeMillam has morn for improvement, though, and will get a strong ride from Richard Quinn, who won on him at Pometract. Mertin Deyer, who rode FizeMillam lest time, is on board Dear Life again following their clear-out win at Epsom. Raised Sb., Dear Life will have to be better than ever to win but it a progressive filty who seems sure to make her presence fait, along with Spillio, who finished well so catch Deunt close home over this journey at Doncaster. Dear Life's trainer, Julie Cocil, size nans Smart Play who, the Malder Caette, tackled a conditions race at Doncaster 18 days ago. Both were coming back from a lengtly ley-off but Smart Play had the stiffer task.

Selection: FIZEMILIAM

__W Ryen 21 _____ Quine 7 Pet Editory 27 ____ R Heath 12 __ M Street 23

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K Falles 22 P Fingles 4

.... Doyle

2.05 TAITERSALLS HOUGHTON SALES STAKES (CLASS B) £25,000 added 270 7f Penalty Value £23,910

2.20 Rushen Raider 2.50 Candid Lad 3.25 Cross Cannon 3.55 Natable Exception 4.30 Superhoo

Left hand, undulating course. Easy fences and long run-in on chase course of 500yds.

chase course of SUDyos.

Resecourse is less than 1 mile south-west of town near junction of A089 and A177. Bus service from Stockton railway station
(12 miles away) or Durham railway station (12 miles sousy). AD(9 miles away) or Durham railway station (12 miles sousy). ADMISSION: Paddock ES (OAPs £4); Course EZ. GAR PARE: Free.

WINNERS IN THE LOCAL DEPTH WALLS MUST.

LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: The Bine Boy (3.26) has been LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: The Blue Boy (3.25) has been sent 201 miles by P Bowen from Haverfordwest, Dyfed; Tursent 31 Green (3.25) has been sent 250 miles by J King from pla's Green (3.25) has been sent 252 miles by G McCourt from Lotcombe (2.50) have been sent 252 miles by G McCourt from Lotcombe

5.00 Canton Venture

SIS CHANNE

BLINKERED FIRST TORE: None BLINEERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATE: None.

10-1 Polar Champ, 16-1 Vargenier, 20-1 trale 1995: Sacker Vale 3 7 13 W Carson 4-1 (B H44) 8 cm

3.45 Dazzle 4.20 Desert Horizon

3.10 NIGHTBIRD (nap)

French threat to Dazzle

Dazzle, the favourite for next She represents the Criquette at Newmarket

Clearly the best juvenile filly on this side of the Channel, Parrty Conference, the Tatter-Dazzle may face her most ar- salls Houghton Sales Stakes is duous challenge from the the only other contest to gain French filly, Pas De Reponse. live transmission.

year's 1,000 Guineas, has a Head stable that was successful straightforward opportunity to in this race with Ma Biche in maintain her unbeaten record 1982 and Rayinella in 1987. and pick up a Group One prize Both those fillies went on to suc-in today's Cheveley Park Stakes cess in the Guineas. In television coverage cur-

tailed because of the Labour

mount was staying on strongly when second to Indiscreet at York. Plant GLEDE

Lies then tive lengths covered Nightkink, Naked Poeer, Shase Queen, Song billet and Catechies in a similar mos at the St Legar meeting and them wit not necessarily be a great deal between them here. (Gambied-on at the same race was lies lies lies breas, prevously numer-up to the amort Referendum at Goodwood). The sate helf-furiong hight make a differentiam term is start to start Nighthride bearing in mind she got up on the fare at Concessor. Netwel Poeer is 180 better off for a short head and has Pet Endery on beard, but Bues Queen is aligney worse off with both travits to be trubequeen wis at Ayr, Song Met can do better with Sichard Quinn taking over from an inexperienced apprehisto, but Frankie Detard swatches to BOSE CATENTVIL, having you on Catechierts at Newbury and Inhibited awenth on that Siy on Town Moor, Rose Carriele locked Catechierts experience when bosten almost four lengths by the Gooden filly at Newbury but she had a russary winner (Glapy Princess) behind when making the most of an easy opening at Takis. Dur Wary in soc at Vermouth provinces to be well abose severage, with another that could go well is Lady Stodies, who beet a large field at York (Lin) other Snishing second to Blace Reer on the July Course.

Selection:

3.45 SHADWELL STUD CHEVELEY PARK STAKES (CLASS A) (Group 1) £80,000 added 270 filles of

		Perserty Value Eos, SUS
L	12021	AMERICANA GARA DAS COMERCES R HARDON S 11 Done O'MAN 2 105
2	412	CAMATI (20) (27) (Art John Root) R Ross 8 51
j	11	DAZZLE (64) (EZ) (Charley Park Street M Streets 6 11 K Parker 4 131
ı	112	MODIFICANT PARADISE (MS) (CD) (Societies) Second bin Scoop 8 11 Defined 8 112
,	1214	OCEAN ANDRE RESAY (RT.) (RS & E Surgant) P Chapte Hyart 8 11
•	131	PAS DE REPONDE (23) (D) (Marticleser at Faret Mas C Hard (F) 8 11
•	124341	QUEEN SCHETTE (12) (D) School Packet 8 Has 8 11 Pet Edday 7 104
	35	QUEEN'S PROPERTY (28) (ALS Robert Hausternet) J Spearing 8 11
•	021/43	SWAP CRACKLE FOR DZI (J StoryK Wile/ D Horr) R Johnson Houghton 8 12

- S declared -SETTING S-11 Decrie, S-2 Per De Hussens, S-1 Houselink Presiden, S-1 Ocean Milita, 10-1 Arathura

1995: Bue Duster 2 8 11 M J Kinarie 4-5 (D Loder) 5 m

1995: But Duster 2.8.11. M.J. Rinare 4-5 (D. Loder) 5 ian PORMA GLUBE

FORMA GLUBE

THE PORMA GLUBE

THE PORMA GLUBE

THE PORMA GLUBE

THE Windows Castle Stakes at Royal Ascot on her debut, Indeed extra special when landing the Charry Hinton on the July Couse here auto-sequently. She seemly quickened like lengths clear of Goeses Risigs, who had looked smert henself when winning a Newbury maiden on her debut and who want on to win the Group Two Prix Robert Pephri at Messons Luftins. Whether Dezde will main on and what her best the Prix Robert Pephri at Messons Luftins. Whether Dezde will main on and what her best the Prix Robert Pephri at Messons Luftins. Whether Dezde will main on and what her best the Prix Robert Pephri at Messons Luftins. Should reach the farms, but Messalight Paradies, in the Godolphin oclosurs for the first time, should reach the farms, but Messalight Paradies, in the Godolphin oclosurs for the first time, may be the one to give Deade most to do. The Irish River Riy won her first two starts for John Dunlop, besting Guesen Scaptre has a 55b put, Mounlight Paradies finished almost six lengths shead when short-beeded by Seeto in the Princase Mergant at Associated the and she may well improve again. Pas De Reposser early won a Group Three at Bry last time but could manage only a three-length third bathed Behandan County and Zaminder when taking on ooths in the Group One Phis Monny et Desurite previously. She is more experienced now and must give well.

Selections DAZZLE

4.20 EBF EQUITY FINANCIAL COLLECTIONS MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £7,000 added ZYO 1m Penaity Value £5,527 AGAS (Hernden Al Mattoure) Seeed bin Supply 8 12

CANONICE HAR PURCH IN THE CITY IN LOCAL CALL	
2 CHROLIEC (13) Chefc Mohammed O Loter 8 11 W R Subber	25
3 DARK GREEN (USA) (87) (88) (484 Prince Paint Salvant P Cole 8 11	
DESERT HORSZOR DE Abduda de J Barrier B 11 1 Desse	
D DOUBLE-648-A (123) Charact Record C Allen 8 11	98
(NATIK (Hamden M Meltoum) 8 Harbury 8 11	
8 MICLIDE NE OUT (12) (V J Gratey) J Farshare 8 11	
2 JACRITY JACK (24) (4 Marchett) L Current 8 11 O Urbin	
MICHAEL VENTURE BY Frank S & Charl S Woods & 11	
PERCYTISLE (Shelif) Michaeland M Stocks 8 12M J Years	
HOWAL CROWN (R E Sangsas) P Chappie Hyero 8 11	47
- 12 declared -	
Dr. d. 1 December 1940 Contribution Columbia 11.2 Properties 7.4 Deck States 8.7 Mar	_

Henry Cacil's lest two runners in this mision were lest year's winner Helicon and Armigor, who won on his debut in 1982 (he was not represented in between). So, with the Warren Place two-year-dids going so wait, CATCHABLE might be the answer. He is reported to have been working with the stable's Replet Lodge thick, Besiege, and River tiles, who won at Haydock on Saturday, Catchables will have to be ament, though, because Chilwelte runs here rether then in seeler maiders eleaviers this week, He looks cartain to win rates after besting all ber the Cacil-mained Henry Warbon at Yammouth. Dark Green looks useful, not, judged on his third to Great at Sandown in a depart mastern. Jamely Jack's run, however, was in tasky, so the is difficult to weight up. Royal Crews is a well-regarded half-brother to Derby withner Dr Devious, and it is not difficult to knagne Dewert Horizon and Royal Crews unraing wall for Frankle Dettorl and Mick Kinene.

Selections CATCHABLE

David Loder and Frankle Dettont, who won this lest year with Rio Duvida, can follow up with ABOU 200UZ, the Gimbrack States witner, Hasing worn down Compton Piece at York, Abou 200UZ legs on well enough to suggest he will stay the extra furlong – but there is plenty of pace on the dent's aide and any stamina lumbainer ocule will be exposed in what will be a truly-run race over a demanding seven furlongs, John Durslap won shall in 1993 with Furno Di Londar and his booked the Editory and Mick Roman for his two atonic contrainders, Streeper's Gordon and Sendestones, Last time out, Greant's Gordon was fourth to Equal Rights in a Group Three recent it fire Correct, while Sandstone had a good hattle with the Royal Lodge third, Beninge, at Heydock, Both stock were over a prile. Piguau was beaten in a Listed gran at Destuvite in August – but only by three parts of a length, and has programed with event race. Metandder is shrifter to the 1994 winner, Ont Corrector, in that he won his maiden first time out, and than an in the Chartsey Lock Spaties. Musadder was beaten only a heaft and a neek by Falak and Captein Cettre at Herngton and that form specified a boost when focuth-placed King Sound reexperient to will at Newbury, Rebuldweiding, Beejian and Hisch in Low have planty of experience but Blance Water might be the Bay with the potential to make a race of it. She won in good style on her debut at Kempton and surrently Lockergial paid her a compliment by beeting Corsini at Ascot. TO SE SHADWELL STUD APPRENTICE SERIES FINAL (HANDICAP)

BETTING: 7-4 Maps Zouz, 7-1 Papus, 8-1 Sandatuna, 10-1 Broom's Bordon, 12-1 Busines, Busines, Some Mone, 14-1 Bisme Water, Streety's Pet, Mich in Love, Swiss Last, 16-2 offices 1895: No Dunde 2 9 0 L Detted 2-2, (i) Lodel 30 per POPEM GUESTE. Devid Loder and Fizanide Detted, who won this lest year with No Duvids, can tolow up with

LEADING JOCKETS: Fat Eddery — 120 winners, 685 tides, 22,9%, -\$4.56; I	Det. poid her a compliment by beeting Corsini at Ascot. Salestion: ABOU 2002
 Lord — 75 winners, 5:29 rides, 14.2%, -\$135.64; W Carnon — 55 winners, 496 11.1%, -\$77.90; W E Swinsburn — 54 winners, 371 rides, 14.6%, -\$36.87. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Note. 	235 SHADWELL STUD APPRENTICE SERIES FINAL (HANDICAP) (CLASS E) £10,000 added 1m 27 Penelty Value £7,295
WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATS: None. LONG-DISTANCE EUNNESS: Double Beho (2,35) has been sen 200 miles by J Beile Middlebun, N Yorks; Swim Law (2,05) sent 165 miles by J Finderald from Norton, N	orks. 3 0-66000 MENAS GOLD (20) 4'R Mounted 5 Box 4.9 7
1.30 NGK SPARK PLUGS RATED HANDICAP (CLASS B) £12 added 1m 4f Perintty Value £8,068 tono 6154 (04) (03) (10) (10) (10) (10) (10) (10) (10) (10	47 1 344823 CRESHOLVESTEEL CONTROLLE & MARKET & EXCHOLS B.D
2 5148 SMART PLRY (USA) (18) (D) (Mrs Google Vand Mrs J Cool 3 9 5 155 MADEN CHITLE (18) (Shekin Mohammed) J Gooden 3 9 4 150 Martin Mrs J Cool	and a second series have the total total control to the second to the se
4 432401 SPILLO (18) (0) (Mrs Luca Current) L Current 3 8 3	lay 1 1D 215133 BLUBE WHATE GRO (34) Dr Florit S 8 Crac) S Woods 4 8 1D M Honey 4
5 121031 DEAR LIFE (NSA) (20) (20) (20) (20) Houseld do Waldon) Mrs J Carl 39 0 Januaria Depart	(5) 9 11 343401 HARSEY WHITE (14) (0) (The Harvay Whate Partnership!) Power 4 8 6 P Date (2) 25 20 7 12 330132 SUPER HIGH (24) (bits) M White) Physical 4 7 13 Million of S
8 11-0025_BEYOND DOURT (20) (D) (The Queen) Lord Humingston 4.8.13	5 13 000103 PRINTERS QUILL (12) (17) (Mrs 8 Woodbel) () Chapped 4 7 10
8 803-030 VALHERENIER (195) (D) (BF) (Non Twighter) R Hannon 4 8 7	off \$ 14 620601 DOCULE BOHO (12) (D) (Ma John Link) J Bethol 8 7 10

3.10 EBF JERSEY LILY NURSERY HANDICAP (CLASS C) £25,000 added 270 filles 7f Penelty Value £19,088

1	141	NAMES OF THE PARTY	
2	162	NAMED POSER (20) Post S Wirfold R Harron 85	Pet Editory 3
3		CHOTECHNEN (USA) (20) (DF) (Thurses P Thirteen) J Gooden 9 3	
4	34251	BLUES QUEEN (10) Olingain Ltd & Charnon 9.3	Carrel 7
5	25235	HER (WINESE (22) (D) (SP) (Sr Thomas Pilorgeon) J Curtop 9 2	X Durby 14
б	41	TELESMAN (25) S D American W Hages 9 1	X Printers &
7	01	MORE CHARGOL (24) (b) & 0 Physil D Loder 8 11	L Defied 1
8	5318	MISSIA (80) (C) Cord Carraryor) R Hannon 8 11	Dame Office 23
9	42156	SONG MEST (20) 94s Champter Herbury) P Cale 8 10	T Quies 12
·10		MADANE CHROCKY (16) (The Chincary Partnership) J Bustice 8 9	
11	. 0020	GET SEE DREAM (20) Gan't 4 Bowman Lipsed A Javes 8 8	M J Record 4
12	153122	TRACEMENT (10) (The Sun Puners Clas) W Mut 88	Paid 6 Y
ქ 3	202	OUR WIN (12) () Ward Has C Saltain 85	B Doyle 11
14	02321	LADY GEORGE (27) (Yearn Recirc) M Poligiane 8 2	

SETTING: 13-2 Mahad Poper, Nighthire, 7-1 Catechism, 16th, 10-1 Telements, 23-1 Nan Harrier, 14-1 Medium 1986: Pacific Group 2 8 1 A Whelim 12-1 (F Cole) 18 nan

4.30 KER NORTH EAST HANDICAP HUNDLE (CLASS D) £4,000 added 2m 97 110yds 1 153-213 NED WALESMAN (37) (CD) G M Micros 5 12 0 ...

5.00 HURRICANE NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 1f 253-212 20045 LETC (27) (67) (87) 34 Jefferson 8 11 5M Nowton (7)
CAMBON VENITURE 5 Woods 4 10 11 Phone
34555-P COURT (MER (6) H Alexandre 4 10 11 Phone
595-SURLED (1984) (1987) M Benandre 4 10 11 Phone
10 SURLED (1984) (1987) M Benandre 4 10 11 Phone
10 SURLED (1984) (1987) M Benandre 4 10 11 A 8 SWISH

70F SIGFPER M Water 4 10 11 _____ 56 ROSE CHANE (18) J L Harts 4 10 6

BETTING: armin Creates Vanture, 7-4 Sums Leat, 9-1 Rose Chirte, 13-1 Top Stipper, 15-1 Court Johns, 20-1 Salbahi King

RACING RESULIS

7-2)t for Hertalmerythin, 5, 3, 15 Williams, Neumariest, Totac £4,70; £2,70, £4,50, £3,50, Duel Forcest £15,50, CSP: £54,59, Tripast £352,51, Tito: £78,50.

050F .RAPID PINE (24) J M Jefferson 8:10:12... PSO-P INLANDREAGN (32) G Richards 5:20 5...

3.25 (CLASS E) £5,000 added 2m 5f

3.55 SPITFIRE HOVICE CHASE (CLASS E)

2312-FO CROSS CHARGE (108) (CD) (Wade 10 12 0 033/21-1 URDE (FF) (238) P Monien 10 11 7 42121P Market 4LONE (27) (CD) (RF) / M Jefferon 10 11 0

PERS 1 THE MULE BOY (10) DI P Steen 8 110

\$15415 CHAMMING BALF (118) Mrs 3 Boothure 9 10 4

3.45: 1 MANFUL (N Kernedy) 7-2: 2. 4.18: 1. MENNANT BLUE () Western 15-2: 1. King of Pore 7-1; 3. King of The East 4-1. 30 rem. 7-2 for Expariero (8th). 1½, hd. (W. Jonis, Neumaring). Tues: 25-30; £1.80, £2.80, £1.80, Dual Riverset: £19.80.

__A McCay 8

Box six htt, 2. (Mass.) Boxes Grantami. Total £38.30; £4.40, £4.40, £5.10, £4.30. Dual Forecast: £237.80, CSF: £297.30. Theest: £3,194.88. Trie: £321.40 (part won, pool of £1,038.28 conted forward to Nerrimarket 2.05 today). After a stewards' inquiry, place

The much-travelled mare Ayun ii eamed a trip to Doncaster for next mouth's November Handicap, with another gutsy victory at Hamilton yesterday. Trained by Stuart Williams at Newmarket, Ayunli

Bookmakers' ante-post lists are brokes and the Tote go 9-2 while Darazari is 7-1 (Coral) racing's futures market. Readers can catch up with the latest Ladbrokes go 5-1. 1,000 Guineas: Reams Of developments - best prices are

Verse is an eye-catching 12-1 in bold - in this sphere with The Independent's Tuesday service. (Tote) - Ladbrokes go 5-1 - af-Cambridgeshire Handicap; Centre Stalls is a top-priced ter winning Sunday's Group One Fillies' Mile at Ascot. 14-1 with Coral - Ladbrokes go Sleepytime, an unlucky third in 8-1 - while Sunday's Ascot win-ner Amrak Ajeeb is 25-1 (Tote) that race, is 6-1 (Ladbrokes – William Hill go 9-2. Dazzle is 4-1 (Coral) – Tote go 5-2 – going into today's Group One Cheveley Park Stakes. If she - William Hill go 14-1 - but is reckoned a doubtful runner by Coral. Among the outsiders Moments Of Fortune is 50-1 wins impressively, Dazzle's (Coral) - the Tote go 25-1. Frix de l'Arc de Triomphe: odds should shorten to be-

ian Davies

Combridgeshir				
Histor (Transplaced)	Cornel 6-1	7-1	iadbrokes 6-1	
Chapte (W Hagang Set) Cation Play (D Haydin Jones/7st13th)	8-1	8-1	8.1	.1
Creen Court (I. Cumery/Bst 2tb)	10-1	10-1	11-1	. 1
Contro Stalle (R J Houghton/Ser 12%)		10-1	6-1	1
Master Charter (Mrs. J Rameden/Brs)	12.1	14-1	12.1	3
Marainel & Current/1st 11b)	12-1	12-1	11-1	
Alegan-G (M. Peveley/7st 7tb)	14-1	12-1	12.1	
Cliffon Pac U Glover/9st 2(b)	12-1	14_1	14_1_	1
Banastern (Saset by Succe/9st)	16-1	12.1	18-1	1
Almond Rock (J Farshawa/Stt11th)	20-1	20-1	20-1	1
Billy Besinsequer (M. Reveloy/Bat5lo)	20-1	20-1	14.1	
Wilder Remence (E Durlon/9611b)	16-1	20-1	20-1	
· ·	OUDIFUL	14-1	16-1	3
Marth Seng U Gorden/Sut710)	25-1	20-1	18-1	
Magnaging (\$ Dow(Bat110)	20-1	25-1	25-1	
Titome (P Makin/Set)	20-1	25-1	25-1	_3
	pubelul	25-1	16-1	2
Codeses Tryst (E Dunlon/9st3fb)	25-1	33-1	33-1	3
Shan Shan (H Cocs/Set) 35)	20-1	33-1 33-1	28-1	2
Conspicuous (L.G Correl/Set1b)		33-1	33-1	
Give the A Ring (C Thomson/Tsr11b)			33-1	3
Mindisley Fill (Mrs. J. Remeder/7st7lb)	33-1	20-1	25-1	2
Minne (G Herwood/Bet12to)	25-1	33-1	25-1	
Beart Spring (P Hedger/Sst)	33-1	33-1	33-1	3
May Some (M Tomplans/8st1b)	25-1	25-1		
Thraws (N Callegrary9st7lb)	40-1	33-1	38-1	3
Detaile Bert () Batchner(8st3(b))	33-1	40-1	25-1 33-1	3
Miles Universal (C Britten/9st5lb) Miles Treem (R Akehurs/7st11lb)	33-1	40-1		3
	33-1	40-1	25-1 40-1	3
Stane Militie (R Harmon/Byt9to)	40-1	40-1	33-1	3
But's Return (A Jan45/7st7b) Turtism (Marryn Wannyfist4b)	33-1	40-1	25-1	3
Automo Cover (P Hedger/7st1lb)	40-1	40-1	50-1	5
Champages Prince (P Harris/Byt1fe)	50-1	33-1	25-1	3
Pulgralings (Mrs. J. Remsden/7st 98s)	80-1	40-1	40-1	3
Gone For A Burton (P Makey Bet21b)	33-1	33.1	50-1	4
Alexandre Of Porture (B Herbury 9:12b)		33-1	33-1	2
Pride Of Pendle (D Nicholis/Bst10lb)	33-1	50-1	50-1	. 6
Prince Of My Heart (B Httls:(9st2tb)	33-1	50-1	40-1	3
Star Managur (P Cole/Sst3tbl	50-1	40-1	40-1	3
Easy Jet (Lord Huntingdon/7stSib)	50-1	68-1	66-1	5
Muster Beveled (P Evens/7st2th)	50-1	50-1	86-1	5
Steep Consul (H Candy/7st7tb)	66-1	66-1	50-1	5
Mhow Fulth (R Hannon/7st1.3tb)	40-1	66-1	40-1	5
Ameline Time (S Woods/7st4tb)	50-1	100-1	66-1	6
	100-1	100-1	100-1	6
Coffee La Principa (K.C. Brown/7st 13to)		100-1	66-1	6
	100-1	100-1	66-1	5
	100-1	100-1	66-1	8
	100-1	100-1	66-1	. 8
	100-2	66-1	50-1	5
	100-1	66-1	66-1	5
	100-1	100-1	88-1	5
	100-1	Doubtful	88-1	В
	1.001	100-1	100-1	10
White Plains (M Bell/Sst128)	50-1	100-1	B6-1	8
Artful Dame (M Heaton-Ellis/Estation)	66-1	50-1	66-1	12
	100-1	100-1	100-1	100
Bold Accomment M Carrington/7:53b)		100-1	66-1	201
	00-1	200-1	100-1	200
	00-1	100-1	66-1	50
	50-1	200-1	200-1	200
	50-1	200-1	100-1	200
		places 1, 2, 3,		_

Horse (Trainer)	Coral	William Hill	Ladbrokes	To
Heliesia (E Lellouche)	3-1	5-2	11-4	5
Zestrab (D Weld)	6-1	11.2	5-1	5
Busin (A Fabre)	13-2	5-1	9-2	6
Derszeri (A de Royer-Dupre)	7-1	11-2	5-1	_11
Clearle Clicke (Secod Bin Surpor)	9-1		-6-1	_10
Ponths (G Wright)		7-1	6-1	_10
Shedrait (W Hojges)	10-1	10-1		10-
Pleudeki (M Stoute)	14-1	14-1	12.1	10
Ducur Schledler (K Prendergass)	12-1	14-1	14-1	16
Germanny (B Schutz)	33-1	33-1		33-
My Einstein (R (Ruest)			25-1	33
Strategic Chaice (P Cole)	25-1	33-1	25-1	33
Bunghack (A Fabre)	33-1	33-1	20-1	33-
Linto (C Brittsin)		50-1	60-1	
Policie (Piche (P Cheople-Hyern)	40-1	50-1	40-1	
Tamsine (J Gostien)		50-1		_33
Leonille (R Collet)	66-1	40-1	66-1	
Le Destin (P Demercasiei)	66-1	50-1	100-1	

Heree (Treiner)	Cornel	Williams High	Ladbrokes	_Tot
Detecto (M. Stoute)	4:1	7-2	3-1	5-3
Shegritale (H Cecti)	5-1	9-2	6-1	5-3
Ministe Of Verse (H Cecif)	7-1	10-1	5-1	12-
Plack River (H Cecil)	10-1	14-1	16-1	14-
Massah (J Gostien)	12-1	20-1	12-1	20-1
Red Comellia (Sir M Prescott)	12:1	16-1	12-1	20-
Misson Nero (D Loder)	16:1	20-1	16-1	16-1
Each-way a quarter the odds,	pinces 1, 2	. 3 Mountmeter	C. Randow, 4 M	

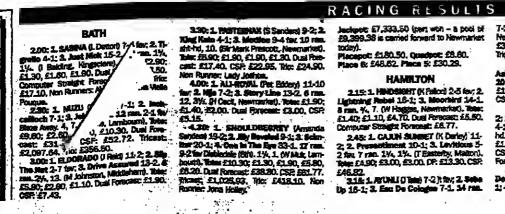


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STANLEY RACING GOLDEN NUMBERS SERIES NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E)

£3,000 added 2m 5f 110yds

- 6 declaret -n±17240: 5-4 Rusius Rukius, 2-1 Danny Galo, 2-2 Tyt- Ha-Maru, 8-1 Papa's

2.50 SATLEY PUNCH BOWL CLAMING HURDLE

8 (2011-75 CAMERO URD SSS) (20) F Boury 9 10 5 ______ B 3 partyeet: 9-6 Hercethedeel, 7-2 Houles, 9-2 Seathlecock, 11-2 Ret Here, 7-1 Stage Pail, 8-1 Cloyer Wrt, Capital Sed, 12-1 Elizo-Eso

2.2 Presentiment 10-1; 3. Levitions 52 fav. 7 ran. 1%, 1% (T Easterly, Matton).

Resp. 14-90; 53:00, 53:00, 57:01; 51:30, CSP.

2 fav. 7 ran. 1%, 1% (T Easterly, Matton).

Resp. 14-90; 53:00, 53:0

Amid all the changes that football has undergone in recent years, one of the most significant has been the growing involvement of women, who are playing an increasingly active role in all areas of the game. In the first part of a series reflecting the change, **Guy Hodgson** talks to two players about the increasing popularity of women's football

Bampton still has to break down barriers



go to something like a women's football international between England and Spain at Tranmere Rovers. "Substandard" for one, "it's OK, but not like the real thing" another. And you would be wrong. Prenton Park is a very fine stadium these days.
Women's football? It's fully

accepted these days, isn't it? Olympic final where 76,000 spectators went to Athens, Georgia, to realise how much the female game has become part of the sporting fabric. No one bats a eyelid when a woman puts on football boots these days. Or do they?

One of the first questions Debbie Bampton had to tackle after England had failed to reach the European Championship foods brought back the bad old days. "Do the girls wear support bras?" the interviewer before this one had asked, to which the response was a frosty "no comment." Given the accuracy that Bampton had displayed with her feet during the match, the questioner was lucky the reaction was not more violent.

"It was a female reporter, of all people," Bampton, the Eng-land captain, said, "and the sexist questions I was asked was like going back in time. I got that 10 years ago. Blokes used to say: Women playing football - do you exchange shirts oo the pitch?' and all that. But not now,

To be a female footballer at international level you have to be dedicated, so some of the questions you are asked are laughable. We want to be treated as equals. We are sportswomen whether we are swimming, playing rughy, foot-

Few are better able to gauge the changing climate than Bamp-



Debbie Bampton (left) fails in her efforts to help England to the European Championship finals following a 1-1 draw with Spain on Sunday

ton. Now 34, she won the first of more than 80 caps as a 16 year old and her CV includes time with Arsenal and the Italian club Trani, while she is currently the player-manager of last seam's Double winners, Croydon.

When she started out, female footballers were the oext thing to freaks; that 4,500 people turned up at Tranmere oo a foul afternoon shows the image - the odd reporter not withstanding has altered radically. As Bampton puts it: "When blokes ask me for an autograph these

15,000 registered female play-ers in England, compared with only 7,000 five years previously. Over the past 12 months, the number of clubs in the London area alone has gone up by 20 per

Bampton was almost born to the sport, as a football-mad father had a ball at her feet as soon as she could walk. She says she likes the competitiveness and the team element. "You saw by the way we played. It's not gulic-girlie stuff. The tackles are days, they really mean it." really going in. We're oot as
The interest is growing at all strong as the men, we never will

levels. Last year, there were be, but the skill level is pretty good." Referring to England's 17-year-old winger, Kelly Smith, she added: "Not many men are as good as her."

Bampton's one taste of fulltime football came in Italy, the rest of the time she has been an amateur, fitting in her pastime around a career. On Sunday, she got to her Kent home a midnight and had to he up at six yesterday morning for the lowpressure task of chauffeuring through the capital's traffic.

"In general, meo don't have to do this because they can get a good standard of football in

the local park. There aren't so many girls playing and we have to have a national league which means every other weekend you are at Liverpool or somewhere paying out of your own mooey. As a player and a manager I have seen it from both sides of the fence and the girls

You look at the Olympic final and the standard was very high, but those girls are professionals. I was full-time in Italy and it made a huge difference, I became much more comfortable with the ball. I was only there for a season because I had

are so dedicated.

my job but still had a flat and car over here. When you were talking money it wasn't massive, I was earning the same sort of age as I was in this country."

How does she see the women's game 10 years from now? "I wish I could be posttive," she replied, "but for so many years we've beeo promised we're going to do this, we're going to do that, so I am a bit sceptical.

We have to work even harder than other countries because we're so far behind. I only hope

quickly get an England Under-21 team together, because un-less we get the youth policy right I can't see us catching up." Domestically, the Premier-

Photograph: Alex Livesey

ship is stronger. Where Don-caster Belles and Arsenal once dominated, teams like Croydon, Millwall and Liverpool are now oeck and neck with them. The competitioo can only be beneficial.

"I'd like to have my football ahead of me," Bamptoo said, "but you can't turn back the clock. I have cojoyed it, eveo though it was very difficult at



ie things

s mist have chosen it. o Plean, then Luton man-announcing the end of his They are nice people with

s part to play, but at the end of the day, they are tea-ladies who do not understand the game, Trevor Staele, resigning as Brattord Park Avenue challings, after two women directors were elected, 1990.

Western Stootball is a game that should be played only by consenting adults in private. Brian: Glanville, sports jour-

I know it will come as a shock to péoble who assume I'm a feminist, but I'm an old-fashioned girl and I truly believe a wife should cook, clean and stay at home to look after the kids. Karren Brady, Birmingham managing director, before her marriage to striker Paul Peschisolido, 1994.

The most pressing ambition of merty girls, which surprised me, was to play football. Ros Coward, journalist, reporting from two schools on whether girls still wanted to be hairstylists nurses and hallerinas, 1991.

The harder to get women psyched up for a match. Men are more arrogant and more con-fident. The girls question their ability more. **Ted' Copeland,** England women's coech, 1995, Our husbands think we're shopping in Dublin'. Banner

held by Republic of Ireland fans in Portugal 1995: Give her the most romantic night ever... make her feel she's the most special person in your life... better than a dozen red roses...she couldn't ask for more. Take her to see Paris Saint-Germain versus

Glasgow Celtic tonight! Adver-

tisement in L'Equipe, 1995. The future is feminine. Sepp Blatter, general secretary of the world governing body of football, Fifa, after the 1995 women's World Cup. From The Umbro Book of Football Quotations, by Peter Ball and Phil Shaw (Ebury Press, £9.99). A new edition is published on Thursday.

TOMORROW "If it is got patropied, it's smally by the people on the door. They'll day these, as Charterer, have it wilds, smit these trolle, door, je me. The Printial Leagues any memor charters, talks to lift Stare.

'We're not as hopeless as they think'

It usually happens about the time the Sunday lunchtime drinking session is finished. Young men see two teams of women playing football and passes as laddish humour. Winsford United Ladies have had more comments about their supermodel.

Things have changed, though. more. The unreconstructed may still try

ahuse. Louisa Sharps, 19, takes that as a compliment. "I think cannot resist what they think they're surprised by the standard" she said. "We're oot as hopeless as they think we are."
As for touchline hanter, she legs and hair than any asplring hardly notices. "At least they're not rude about our foothall any

Which was oot always the

case. Sharps, a right-back "because there was a space there", began playing three years ago for two reasons. Her younger sister was doing it - and there are fewer greater motivations than sibling rivalry - and be-cause she was fed up with the presumption that football was purely a man's game.

"I'd not been interested in sport before and when I started it was from scratch," she said.

"I remember the captain shouting: 'Get her off, she's hopeless', hut it's the opposite now. My biggest problem was the tackling, I thought I'd get hurt. Now I love it."

Winsford are in the Fourth Division of the four-division North West Women's Regional League and have a 0-0 result against Doncaster Belles, one of the great powers in the game. in a seven-a-side tournament as

wasn't their first team, but who cares? It was still a draw."

There have been slight setbacks like 22-0 defeats before now, which would be enough to discourage anyooe, yet her team-mates are genuinely keen - and they still pay for their own transport to matches. "The worst thing," Sharps said, "and one you get all the time is: 'Oh.

a battle honour. "It prohably fat and ugly', which makes me wasn't their first team, but who really angry. You get bruises on your legs and you can see people wondering what I have been up to. If it was a man, they would think: 'Oh, he's beeo

playing sport'." There is a flip side, however. "It's not a bad chat-up line," she said. "Boys like it because you can talk to them about football. one you get all the time is: 'Oh, It's something you have in com-I thought you would be short, mon with them straight away."

Sharps: Started from scratch

Tollett switch expands British options

Rugby League DAVE HADFIELD

reports from Nadi, Fiji

Great Britain have selected their resident Australian. Tulsen Tollett, at scrum-half for their first match in Fiji tomorrow, but the signs are less propitious for three players from the Test side relegated to midweek duties.

Joey Hayes, Terry O'Connor and Chris Joynt, who started the hard-earned victory over Papua New Guinea in Lae on Satur-

That means the three are likely to be out of the team to play Fiji this Saturday, with Daryl Powell, Brian McDermott and Paul Sculthorpe lined up to replace them. "It is what I have said all along - that the Test team will be picked on form." said Phil Larder, the coach who has also shown that he is

unafraid of asking players to oc-cupy relatively unfamiliar roles. Tollett, born at Hastings, but hrought up in the outer suburbs

day, play against a Fiji Presidents' XIII at Lautoka. of Sydney, is not a complete stranger to the scrum-half position, having played much of his early rugby there for Penrith.

In more recent years, he has been primarily a stand-off, most receotly for the London Broncos. He becomes the first London Bronco and the first Australian-produced player to start a match for Great Britain. His inclusion gives Larder, who was impressed by Tollett's contribution as a substitute at Mt Hagen during the first match of the tour, the opportunity to

rest both his specialist scrumhalves before Saturday's Test at Nadi. He wants to start with his match-winner in Papua New Guinea, Bobbie Goulding, and have Tony Smith available to make an impact from the bench. And switching Tollett allows him to do just that.

Bernard Dwyer gets his first action of the tour as a substitute after recovering from blisters and is a substitute under the captaincy of his Bradford teammate, James Lowes. Three were not considered because of injury - Alan Hunte, who has been having acupuncture on a trapped nerve, Rowland Phillips, who has had surgery on a facial cyst, and John Roper. Roper's knee injury is causing most concern and he was given a stringent exam-mation to gauge his likely re-

MALIOTI TO BRUGE TIS IIKELY re-COVERY time yesterday.

GREAT BRUTAIN: Prescott (St Helens);
Hayas (St Helens), Mather (Western Rade),
Senior (Sheffield), Critchley (Western Rade),
Hasmond (St Helens), Telefits (London);
O'Conner (Wigan), Lowes (Bradford, capr),
Harmon (Lens), Bradford (Citchin), Cas-sidy (Wigan), Joynt (St Helens), Substituess;
Salilwan (St Helens), Doyne (Bradford), Mol-low (Facthersprope), Malione (Bradford), Mol-

Devils turn up the heat Sheffield Steelers, the cup holders, should have the beat-

ice hockey

STEVE PINDER

The first legs of the Benson and Hedges Cup quarter-finals were all close enough to set up genuine return legs this weekend.

The two teams with all to play for are Nottingham Panthers and Cardiff Devils, who played on Panthers' less than perfectly prepared ice a match that was low in both scoring and penal-ties but high on skill. Ian Cooper's goal half-way through the match gave Devils a 1-0 win.

second leg, hut Cobras ran them close for 40 minutes, with both sides hitting the pipes in the first period, and only Ken Priestlay's tip-in gave Sheffield an edge they never relin-quished, winning 6-3. Manchester Storm took to

ing of Newcastle Cobras in the

the ice without Stephen Cooper, who will be out for six weeks following a hemia operation, and the suspended Dale Jago, but even they would have been hard pushed to stop a rampant

Ayr Scottish Eagles, the newcomers who have yet to be defeated. Sam Groleau and Vince Boe put them two up in six minutes, the two-goal difference in Ayr's 4-2 win.

Basingstoke Bison and Bracknell Bees kept their game tight, tying 2-2 at the end of the second period before Kevin Conway and Chris Maybury scored to make it 4-2 to Bison. Rob Stewart made it 4-3, but with a minute to go, Steve Brown scored a power-play goal to give Bison a two-goal cushion. Results, Digest, page 23

TODAY'S FIXTURES JEWSON EASTERN LEAGUE Premier Distinction: Gorieston v Clecton Town (7.45); Hadeigh United v Diss Town (7.45). NORTH WEST COUNTES LEAGUE First Division: Atheriori Collines v Citiheros; Black-pool Roses v Holler Old Boys; Eastwood Harley v Vauchal GM; Maine Road v Satford City; Narthach Town v Mossley, NORTHERN COUNTES; EAST LEAGUE Premier Divisions; Hatfald Main v Streffick, Premier Division; Career best Football Dover v Buth City (7.45) MERCURY Meccleafield v Halifrax (7.45)
Slough v Wolding (7.45)
FA CUP Second qualifying round replayer
Placiford v Bromagrove (7.45)
FA CUP Second qualifying round replayer
Placity Athletic, Athletion Etal v Kettaring
Town: Blason Town v Desborough Town
(7.45); Kryperely Victoria v Southridge: Srepshed Dynamo v Solffull Borough; Grantfarm
v Canvey island (7.45); Cambridge City v Wrontam (7.45); Chemstrot City Heybridge Swifts
(7.45); Grays Athletic v Heyes; Stanssed v
Hampton (7.45); Yesding v St. Abarra City, Pisher Athletic v Hemon (7.45); Tonbridge V Molesey
(7.45).
IntiBOwo LEAGUE Pressier Division: Geirsborough Ynnby v Spernymoor; Leak Town v 7.30 unless stated /.30 unless same
NATIONWIDE LEAGUE
PREST DIVISION
Grimsby v Nerwich (7.45)
Ipsaich v Barnsley (7.45)
Oldham v West Bromwick (7.45)
Portsmooth v Crystal Palace (7.45)
Southead v Steffield Utd (7.45)
Transers v Oxford Utd (7.45) for Henman STILL 20% CHEAPER **Tennis**



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Tim Henman, the British No 1 who has shown remarkable improvement this year, has moved up ooe place to 32 in the world rankings - the highest of his career. Henman is aiming to reach the top 20 by the turn of the year and will play six successive tournaments in Europe. His marathon stint begins today wheo he plays the Frenchman Guy Forget in the first round of the Lyon Grand Prix.

While Henman goes up, Greg Rusedski, the British No 2, has slipped to 84 in the rankings. This is because the points he gained from reaching the semi-finals of the Basle tournameot last year have now gone off the computer. Rused-ski is playing in the Heineken Open in Singapore this week.

SECOND DIVISION Bournemouth v Walself (7.45) Bristol City v Breatford (7.45)

Wycombe v Rotherham (7.45) York v Bristol Rovers (7.45) THIRD DIVISION

Cartiste v Colchester (7,45) Cartiste v Colonewor (7.45) ... Chester v Northampton (7.45) Doncaster v Hartiepool (7.45) Rollham v Torquay (7.45)... Hereford v Scunthorpe (7.45). Leyton Oriest v Sweeses (7,45)

Wigen v Exeter (7.45)
Postposed: Cardiff City v Rochdele.

CM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE

sey (7.45).

IRRIBORD LEASUE Pressier Division: Gensborough Yinity v Spermymoor, Leek Town v
Boston Utd; Witton Alban v Marins. Leegue
Cap first resest: Cuzon Astron v African
Laburrum Rovers; Frickley Athletic v Fanisy
Cettic; Great Harwood Town v Workington; Harrogate Town v Stocksbridge Park Steels; Lancester City v Netherleid: Lincoln United v
Afreton Town; Matlock Town v Suxton; Whitley Bity v Gretns.

ICIS LEAGUE First Division: Abington Town v Wolangham Town; Worthing v Libridge (7.45). Second Division: Bracknell Town v Badford Second Divinions Bracknell Town v Bedford Town (7.45); Cheshurt v Leetherhead; Edgware Town v Leeghton Town; Egnam Town v Leeghton Town; Egnam Town v Town; V.45); Hernal Hampstood v Coller Raw & Romford (7.45); Hernal Hampstood v Coller Raw & Romford (7.45); Hungafrood Town v Horsham; Wars v Witham Town (7.45). Third Divisions Ringsbury Town v Ting Town (7.45). UNLET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE First Divisions Anundel v Burgess Hill Town; Langner v Eastbourne Town; Shoreham v Mille Obje. Southwick v Portfield (7.45), John O'thera League Cup Second round; Horsham VMCA v Steyning (7.15).

record heaver count rest sets a landaue pre-mater betefone Hatfield Main vS-reffled, Pre-lident's Cap first round: Sarforth Town v Pickering Lown; Pombingst v diesshoughton. SCREWFOX DIRECT LEAGUE Premier Divi-sions Barnstaple Town v Ermore (7.45); Odd Down v Chippenham Town; Peuton Rovers v Therton Town.

Therton Town.

UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE
Premier Division: Eynesbury v Mirriess
Blackstone: Hobsech v Spaking, Neuport Pagnelv Long Buckby, Stamford v Bourne; Stowarts & Lloyds Corby v Roston Town; Stotold
v Cogenine; Wellingborough Town v Kempstan Rovers, Leegale Cup first round: Pottop v Ramsey.

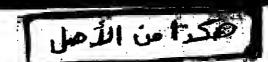
LEAGUE OF WALES: Part v Coentering NUL V Harrisey.

LEAGUE OF WALES: Pirit V Coemerion Town. PONTINS LEAGUE Premier Division: Derty County v Sheffeld Wednesday (7.0); Everon v Liverpool (7.0).

Rugby Union ANGLO-WELSH CUP Pool 18: Usnell v Bath (7.0). WELSH NATIONAL LEAGUE Second Division: Abstach v Llandovery (7.0); Blackwood v UWIC (7.0); Maestag v Bonymaen (7.0); Portypool v Abertillery (7.0); South Wales Police v Cross Kigs (7.0); Ystradginikis v Abertynon (7.0).

Other sports





sport

17.00

Henry Paul, the New Zealander, will play at full-back in Bath's Anglo-Welsh Cup game at Llanelli tonight. Paul's Wigan colleague, Jason Robinson, is recalled by the double champions after missing Saturday's 46-10 League victory over West WESTERN DIVISION A 1 0 116 A 1 0 110 A 1 0 128 I 4 0 85 I 4 0 71 Hartlepool. Bath give a debut Derrier

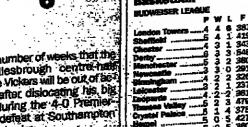
Nansas City

San Diego

Oeldand

Sontile to the 6ft 4in teenager Richard Bryan, who plays in the back row alongside Eric Peters and NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE EASTERN DIVESION the captain Andy Robinson.
Andy Reed, the Lions and Scotland lock, will make his Wasps first-XV debut in their CENTRAL DIVERSOR

Cup tie against Neath at their Sudbury ground tomorrow. TODAY'S NUMBER 6



Jackson defies all obstacles

Genevieve Murphy on the long and difficult road to success for a member of Britain's Paralympic equestrian team

Jo Jackson can remember one moment above all others during her trip to Atlanta for the Paralympic Games. It came as a glorious mixture of joy and relief, as the 24-year-old rider did the final halt in the first dressage test that counted towards the medals.

"I knew it was a good test," Jackson said, "I'd had serious problems in the warm-up class, so that last halt felt very special." There was an hour's delay, during which she paced back and forth, before her score came

had woo the Grade IV gold medal. Another Briton, Pat Straughan, took the silver.

Jackson, who has a hook in place of her right arm which was missing at birth, was to win two more gold medals one for the freestyle test to music and anmember of the Jackson: Atlanta adventure week, she had

winning team, which also included Liz Stone, Dianne Tubbs and Anne Dun-

In all, the British Paralympic Equestrian team collected three gold, three silver and two bronze medals. This remarkable haul made them worthy recipieots of the Special Award which was presented in London yesterday by the Princess Roy-al, during the Animal Health Trust's United Kingdom Eques-trian Awards Luncheon.

There would have been oo medals for Jacksoo but for the wonderfully positive attitude taken years ago by Ruth Jacksoo, her mother, who was determined that Io would oot be first sat on the horse (who was held back by her handicap. So oo armchair ride either) just 30 (among other things) she rode, swam and learnt to play a variety of musical instruments dur- medal - and her exquisite moing her childhood in Devon. She did not like riding initially, but

it was the thing that stuck. At 16 Jackson was persuaded to join the Riding for the Disabled Associatioo and she

Paul takes on

full-back role

for Cup tie

Rugby Union

promptly became the Junior RDA National Dressage champion. She won the senior title in 1991 and 1993. In 1994 she became world champion.

It has not, however, been an easy ride. This year Jackson has had flu, a recurring chest infec-tion, tendon trouble in her good arm (on which she had an operation last week) and a sharp Dain in her right forearm where the artificial fimb fitted. The lattraining which left insufficient fat to cushion the bone, so she cut through and she knew that she up a foam foot pad to use in-

> Despite the problems, Jacksoo was well prepared for the climate in Atlanta, "The heat and bumidity wasn't nearly as bad around in the steam room for she said. Having trained at a fitness centre for five days a

expected to be riding a horse during the team's acclimatisation in Florida. But the horses that were provided were lame, so she ran round a lake in her riding gear instead.

The first horse assigned to Jackson in Atlanta was also lame and the second was unmanageable. "He went ballistic in the warm-up class, he was bucking and pulling and I only just managed to stay on," Jacksoo said.

The second horse was also found to be lame so, in the end, she shared Irish Classic - the mount of her good friend and | the start of the first round of five team-mate, Liz Stone, who was minutes before the test that provided her with her first gold ment of relief.



Enlarged play-offs bring thrilling finale

And so, after exactly six months, 162 games and a regular season in which home runs have rained from the heavens like hailstooes in a prairie thunderstorm, we are down to eight.

A couple of years ago, of course, it would have been just four. But in a quite uncharacteristic stroke of wisdom, Major League Baseball's owners in 1993 added an extra round of play-offs. The result this year has been a thrilling September run-in which kept more than half the 28 teams in contention for the four National League and four American League post-season places. Today sees games to establish the divigame championship series for each league, with the victors going to the World Series

born with spina bifida. Jackson sional winners. Then the format vious membership of 12 infirst sat on the horse (who was reverts to the familiar seven cluded such immortals as Babe been all too much, epitomised the National League West for Greg Maddux, Tom Glavine MAJOR LEAGUE RESULTS AND FINAL STANDINGS

The 1996 vintage is unusually interesting including the best of the recent past (the Atlanta Braves and the Cleveland Indians, who contested last year's Series), some golden oldies (the New York Yankees, the Baltimore Orioles and the St Louis Cardinals, who collectively have struck hardly a spark in the

National League duet of the San Diego Padres and the Los Angeles Dodgers, plus one long overdue post-season novice, the Texas Rangers.

First though, a recap of the statistically amazing regular seasoo that wrapped up oo Sunday, in which intters have flourished as oever in history. In 1996, the 28 Major League teams scored 22,831 runs, shattering the previous record of 20,864. Their sluggers smote 4,962 home runs, an average of 2.18 per game, and an un-precedented 17 players hit 40 homers, compared with the previous single season high of eight. Two cracked the 50 barrier, to join a club whose pre-

the Orioles smashed the Major League team home run record with 257, eclipsing the 240 collected by the Maris and Mantle Yankees of 1961.

hitherto a journeyman lead-off hitter for the Baltimore

Orioles, whose previous season

high was 21, Led by Anderson,

The fans have loved it, the managers less so - just as football coaches privately wince even when they win 5-2 or 6-3. The flip side of exceptional hitting is lousy pitching, and of

Rupert Cornwell on the season when ous part. In the American Louis look the weakest of the baseball's record books were rewritten League, the Indians start as bunch but in Tony LaRussa they clear favourites, the team more who compiled a 53-109 record Willie Mays. One of the newcomers was Brady Anderson,

and a team ERA of over seven. What, the purist will wonder. has become of the low-scoring pitching duel of yesteryear? To which the safe answer is, wait for the play-offs where runs invariably are fewer and the pitching more dominating than in the regular season. Indeed, the final Sunday provided a compelling taste of what should lie ahead, as the Padres completed a threegame sweep of the Dodgers. Both sides had shot-outs

.556 .528 :481

74 543 82 494 91 438 95 414

experienced albeit less overwhelming than in 1995. In the first round they should put away the pitching-weak Orioles. The other divisional series is a toss-up. The Yankees, who have not been to the World Series since 1981, have the balance, but the Rangers the flair - as well as handsome winning records against all three of its rivals during the regular season.

The outlook in the National League is comparable. The Braves, by common consent, are through 10 innings, until Chris
Gwynn delivered a two-run douthat intimidating starting pitch-Ruth, Mickey Mantle and by the woeful Detroit Tigers San Diego by a single game. and Steve Avery has been a mite

have the canniest manager in the business. Los Angeles are imposing oo paper but have struggled of late, and baseball is a game of streaks. The National League team on a roll right now is the Padres. The pitching is solid, while Chris Gwynn's brother, Tony, has just won his seventh National League batting title and the third baseman Ken Caminiti has become one of the most devastating switch-hitters And the World Series? After the summer's pyrotechnics, the

safe guess is that the antumn will be a repeat of 1995: the Braves against the Indians, crowned by another victory for the Braves - proof again of the old adage that, in the crunch, good pitching invariably beats good hitting. But 1'll court disaster by predicting a Padres/Yankees Series, with the World Championship returning to the Bronx for the first time since 1981. That is probably the kiss of death for both. But, after a dismal season by the Mets, and with the city's two NFL teams floundering. New York needs something to

Golding regains Global lead 1990s), the southern California moved up to second, pushing Chiefs' unbeaten record is charged down

ers' favourite, took Nuclear

After a heavy night battling down the English Channel into a south-westerly breeze gusting to gale force, Mike Golding in Group 4 was still in the lead of the 14-yacht amateur BT Globpute the lead last night. al Challenge yesterday, writes Stuart Alexander.

At one stage, off Jersey, he had been passed by Simon Walker in Toshiba Wave War rior, but Golding, who led the. charge out of the Solent after the start on Sunday, regained Britain's Pete Goss has alrea the lead. Chris Tibbs in Concert qualified in Aqua Quorum.

Walker down to third, and Richard Tudor, the bookmak-Electric up to fourth after a lacklustre start. Those four, with Paul Bennett fifth in Ocean Rover, were continuing to dis-

The Global Challenger, Tony Bullimore a 60ft monohull, was also heading south to the Azores as he put in his qualifying run for the Vendée Globe singlehanded round-the-world race, starting on 3 November. Britain's Pete Goss has already **American football** MATT TENCH

teams went into last weekend boasting unbeaten records, but only the Indianapolis Colts rged unscathed - and they had the weekend off. The Kansas City Chiefs at-tracted a host of admirers as they

And theo there was one. Four

cruised to a 4-0 start, but their but his 47-yarder was blocked visit to San Diego was always likely to be a stern test. It evolved into a game of field goals, with the Chargers' John Carney con-verting his fifth with a little over three minutes left to give his side a 22-19 lead.

Even then the Chiefs' Petc Stoyanovich, who had already hit four field goals of his own, had a chance to tie the game up,

by Chris Mims. The kicking game was also piv-otal as the New York Giants

pulled off the shock of the day, overcoming the previously un-beaten Minnesota Vikings. Three field goals from Brad Daluiso and Aaroo Pierce's one-yard run were enough to secure a 15-10 victory as Dan Reeves' side lived up to their name for once.

Only slightly less surprising was Carolina's downfall at Jacksonville, the first cootest between the two teams who joined the league s year ago. With a 100 per cent record and s victory over San Francisco under their belts the Panthers were clear favourites, but had no answer to the Jaguars' relentless rushing which amassed 179 yards, including a pair of touch-

was a day for some statements to be made," Tom Coughlin, the Jacksonville head coach, said. The 49ers, having had a week to get over their defeat by Car-

Sen Diego91 *Los Angeles90 Colorado83

olina, bounced back with a comfortable win over Atlaota for whom Bobby Hebert (three interceptions) proved no more effective than the suspended Jeff George, who is expected to

downs for James Stewart. "It be leaving Atlanta, perhaps was a day for some statements sooner rather than later. A possible destination is Oakland, although the move smacks of frying pans and lires. The Raiders' home defeat by Chicago - despite a 17-3 second-half lead -was their fourth

in five starts, and significantly in-

creases Mike White's chances of

becoming the season's first head

SPORTING DIGEST

Petry Storm 71, Newcastle Eagles 92, Themes Valley Tigars 80; Sheffield Sharts 78 Butting Worthing Beets 63; Edde London Tow-ers 122 Hernel & Wattord Royals 82.

Cycling

Ithiam TEAM (World Road Road, Lugano, Switzerland, 23 October): M Bercol, G Rugno, F Casegande, C Chiappuci, M Dorell,
A Eli, G Faresin, S Faustin, A Ferrigato, M
Finosto, F Guid, R Pistore, D Rebellin, A Teli.

The Everton defender Marc Hottiger has been dropped from the Swies squad for Sunday's World Cup qualifier against Finland in Heisinid. Hottiger and the mid-fielder Christophe Ohrel pey the price for last month's 1:0 loss to Azerbaijan.

TO REST (FOUND & 1-9), OSE OF PACKARISH.

PACARINES PREMIERSHIP Picture changes
Monday 16 December: Deby County v Berton (from Saunday 14 December).

MATIONWIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE Postpoined matches: Tonight: Cartiff City v
Rochides, Sebarday: Chester City v Castiff City
(International call-sips).

TRANSFERS: Andy Lenning (goalineper) Lin-coin City to Chestorfield (free); Zoran Lenna-jie (goalineper) Sporting Liston to Duriemline Athletic (free).

jie (gossepp) sporang usoon to be a server at the common a 2 San Jose Clock O (series level 1-1).

NETHERIANDS SQUAD (World Cap qualifier V Walse, Carriff, 5 October; Goal-haupers: Van der Ser (Ajad, De Goey (Feyncoord), Debendes: Frei Bour, Englinde (horth Ajad, Velerica, Nessen (horth PSV Dridhower), Vilentiese (Viesser Amtiem), Ooyer (Rods JC Kertrade). Middieldent: R de Boer (Ajan), Wester (Interresionale), Seodorf Fiscal Middel), Coocs, Josek (Doth PSV), Van Bronifforst (Feyncoord), Forwards: Midder (Schalte O4), Berglantip (Aysonal), Van Hooljdoek (Celtic), Grayff (Manchester Univertit.

BUICK CHALLENGE (Georgie) Leading final-roand scores (US orders stated): 134 M Bradley 66 68 (Non at first hole of play-off); Frank 69 65; J Megnes 68 66; D Live 68 68; L Mattiace 66 68. 135 8 (200 file) 66; F Couples 68 67; M Dawson 70 65. 138 S Cink 68 70; A Bryant 68 68. 137 A Waddins 84 73; W Wood 69 68; H Surgen 71 66. 138 O Browne 68 72; G Boros 68 70; N Lancaster 68 69; 1 McGrawn 65 73; I Kell 70 68; L O Browne 68 72; J McGovern 65 73; J Kelly 70 58; J Funyk 69 68; 139 M Habbert 67 72; J Carter 69 70; P Adriger 67 72; C Paukson 69 70; J Hart 71 68; W Aussin 70 69; J Skiman 70 69; P Jacobsen 73 69; M Webb 70 69; G Rusmak 71 68; 140 C Perry (Aus) 70 70; S Ebington (Aus) 68 72; 142 V Singh (Fig) 73 69; Tournament was shortaned to 36 holes because of rath.

Decrease of rath.

LPGA FIELDCREST CLUSION WORKER'S
CLASSIC (Charlotte, North Carollim) Landing Sinal scores (US unitees stated): 270
T Johnson 67 71 68 64, 273 K Salid 68 67 T Johnson 67 71 68 64, 273 K Sakid 86 67 70 88, 274 O Peoper 68 67 68 71, 276 T Kartyk 65 69 71 68; 0 Egysting 68 69 68 71, 277 C Schrayer 68 69 74 69; H Affectson 67 72 71 67, 278 3, Mucha 70 68 68 71; 0 Andrews 68 69 70 71; G Graham 87 67 71 73, 279 C HJ Koch 68 172 68; 1 Deci-nison 73 70 67 69, 280 M McGams 70 73 68 69; L Dawes 72 68 71 69; P Hurst 68 71 70 71; R Hood 65 71 71 73. PORD WOMER'S GRODER OF MERRY Leading

71. 70 71; R HOOG 65 71. 71. 73.
FORD WOMEN'S ORDER OF MERT Leading positions: 1 H Attretison (Swe) 297:204; 2 i, Davies (Eng. 295:280; 3 A Nicholes (Eng. 295:280; 3 A Nicholes (Eng. 295:280; 3 D Hoofey (Eng. 255:437; 714-16 Lorent [Fr] 252:286; 3 H Nock (Swe) 507:718; 9 A Soverstand (Swe) 241:500; 30 F Dessu (N. 230:203.

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP (Hong Kong) Sent-finals: Deng Yoping (Chira) bit M Svenson. (Swe) 21-13 21-14 21-11; Yang Ying (Chi-na) bit Wang Chen (Chiva) 21-18 21-15 21-5. Third pince play-off: Wong bit Svenson. 23-21 21-15 (best of three). Final: Deng bit Yang 21-19 21-18 21-17.

Thomas Muster, the world No 3 who stormed off court during a Davis Cup tie with Brazil, will be in London next week to argue his case to the Interna-tional Ternis Federation. Muster left the court when he and his partner were 0-2, 15-30 down in fifth set of the the doubles against Brazil last weekend in 550 Paulo complaining that rowdy fans made it impossible to continue playing. The Austrians forfeited the match, and the tie, 1-4, when they also refused to play the presented two sindex. week to argue his case to the interna-

STNCAPORE OPEN Men's elegios, first round: T Johansson (Swe) et 2 Draper Vurs) 6-4-3-6-3, J Stork (US) bt J-P Fleuren (Fr) 5-7-6-3-6-3, A Ottocaloy (Rust bit T Snchaphan (Thei) 6-2-6-0, G Spatierd (SA) bit M Denner (Er Rep) 7-6-6-0; G Robert (Fr) bt N Godward (Er Rep) 7-6-6-0; G Robert (Fr)

PREMIER LEAGUE: Stough 7 Medway 1; Swin-don 8 Kingston 0; Teiford 5 Quildord 3; Quid-ford 2 Medway 4; Peterborough 2 Rongston 11; Solthuil 4 Teiford 3; Swindon 7 Teiford 9. NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Castlemanth

RESERVE CHARLES SQUAD (Duttel Sevens, November): R Broughton (Meirose), G Burns (Watsonsure), J Creig (West of Scotiand), S Heetings (Watsonsure), Gold, O Hodge (Watsonsure), C Mether (Watsonsure), S Nichol (Malcone), N Penny (Stuard's-Salatin EO). R Remedic (Heading), T Smith

play the remaining two singles.

SPARKASSEN CUP WOMEN'S RICERNATHOWAL GRAND PROX (Leipzig, Germany)
First round: 8 Appelmans (Bel) bit G Pizzchini
(10 6-2 6-2; H Suldova (Cz Rop) bit A Gaelle
Sidol (Fin 7-S 6-3; K Po (US) bit N Trazza (Fin
6-7 6-2 6-3; K Hebeuchora (Slovis) bit E Lichouseve (Rus) 8-1 6-1.

FED CUP FRAIL (Attentic City): United States
bit Spain 5-0: M Seles bit C Marinez (Spi 62 6-4; L Devemport (US) bit A Sanchez Vicario (Spi 7-5 6-1; Seles bit Sanchez Vicano
3-6 6-3 6-1; Devemport bit G L Garcia (Spi
7-5 6-2; M J Fernandez and L Wid (US) bit
Garcia and V Rueno-Pascal (Sp) 6-1 6-4.

SINCAPORE OPEN Men's ethildes, first

(Thel) 6-2 6-0. G Stafford (SA) bit M December (Rec) 7-6 6-0. G Resear (Fr) bit N Golven (SA) 6-3. P Rother (Mus) bit S Mastacka (Ingon) 6-4 6-2. S Schollen (Neth) bit M Walling (Se) 6-2 6-2. Doubles first round: J Franc (Ap) and N Pencins (Nen) bit M Pencins (GS) and V Spades (US) 4-6 6-3 6-4.

ATP TOUR RANDONIS Leading positions: 1 P Sempras (US) 4,740pts; 2 M Chang (US) 4,010; 3 T Muster (Aud 3,612; 4 G Marine-No (Crob) 3,161; 5 Y (Materikov (Res) 3,091; 3 W Fernelins (SA) 2,701; 7 8 Becker (Ger) 2,586; 3 R (Migles) (Nen) 2,201; 3 P Agassi (US) 2,292; 10 M Rec (Crib) 2,101; 11 M Westington (US) 1,891; 12 T Marin (US) 1,905; 13 T Engels (Swe) 1,786; 14 T Courter (US) 1,780; 15 A Costa (Sp) 1,758; 18 FAMERIES (SH 1,578; 12 P Marin (Fr) 1,557; 18 A Bensentega (Sp) 1,799; 19 M Philip-



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THE INDEPENDENT SINDEPENDENT

Wilkins in right place for Hibs job

Football

NICK DUXBURY

Ray Wilkins could find himself again elevated from the ranks to officer class after Alex Miller's 10-year term in com-mand at Hibernian came to a close yesterday,

The 40-year-old Wilkins, who was signed by Miller on a shortterm contract after the midfielder's services as Queen's Park Rangers player-manager were no longer required, may well be Hibs' choice as they seek to stem a run of disappointing results, not least Saturday's embarrassing 3-1 home derby defeat by Heart of Midlothian.

In the meantime, the assistant manager Jocky Scott will assume control, with Wilkins ioined on the list of candidates by Murdo MacLeod, Steve Archibald, Alex McLeish, Gordon Strachan, Willie Miller, Terry Christie and Alex Smith,

Miller's resignation came after a lengthy conflict with a sec-tion of the Hibs' supporters. These things happen in football and I thought this was for the best for both parties," he said. "I think the fans were beginning to try to get to me through the players." The 47-year-old Miller will continue as part-time assistant to the Scotand manager, Craig Brown.

Fans also made their influence felt at Wycombe Wanderers, where the manager, Alan Smith, and his assistant, David Kemp, were released with the team bottom of the Second Division without a win in nine League games.

Fans have been calling for the return of Martin O'Neill, who led the club out of the Vauxhali Conference hefore taking over at Leicester City. Supporters also called for the resignation of Smith, who spent just 15 months in charge at Adams Park following two years at Crystal

Palace, at the end of last season. accepted by the fans and that has made life extremely difficult," Kemp said.

Manchester City's difficulties concerning their vacant manager's job continue with Willie Donachie, the former Maine Road defender, joining the list of refusals and slaying as firstteam coach at Everton.

Maradona handed win on a Plate



Diego Maradona yells encouragement for Boca Juniors as his former club beat their erch rivels, River Plate, 3-2 in Buenos Aires. Maradona saw River Plate twice come from behind before a spectacular diving header by the Uruguayan Hugo Guerra earned Boca victory

'Friendly Games' under threat

Athletics

KIERAN DALEY reports from Palma, Majorca

The Commonwealth Games face disaster after world athletics' governing body, the International Amateur Athletic Federation, announced plans to assert its control over the sport's rapidly expanding proessional circuit.
Primo Nebiolo, president of

the IAAF, revealed at the World Half-marathon Championships here that he will brook no opposition to future IAAF fixtures by denying rival events permission to be staged. Nebiolo also hopes to ensure the quality of his meetings by paving athletes cash prizes at all IAAF events from next year.

We can do what we want because we are the governing body," Nebiolo said. "We bave the strength to control the sport and disqualify any athlete tak-ing part in other events." The IAAF's moves could hit

the next Commonwealth Games. often referred to as the "Friendly Games", in Kuala Lumpur. In announcing the dates for the 1998 World Cup in Johannes-burg, the IAAF has lined up a clash. The three-day World Cup team event finishes on 13 September, 24 hours before athletics events at the Commonwealth Games start in Malaysia.

We have a problem with the Commonwealth Games. They must fit in with us," Nebiolo said. Besides the sheer physical demands of sucb a busy programme facing athletes who might have considered competing in both events, senior IAAF sources are confident the leading Commonwealth athletes will prefer to chase cash in the World Cup rather than compete for devalued Commonwealth titles.

Next year, the IAAF has already guaranteed prizes at the World Championships in Athens, with \$100,000 (£65,000) bonuses for world records.

The Commonwealth Games have been in decline as an athletics spectacle for some time. The organisers in 1998 and 2002, when they are due to be staged in Manchester, must fear that if the crowd-pullers are absent from the high profile track events, sponsors and television will desert the Games, too. "We are aware of the problems," a spokesman for the Commonwealth Games Federation said yesterday, and we are in discussions with the IAAF."

Roger Black, Jonathan Edwards and Steve Backley have been awarded the British Athletics Federation's athlete of the year award for the best performance in major international competition.

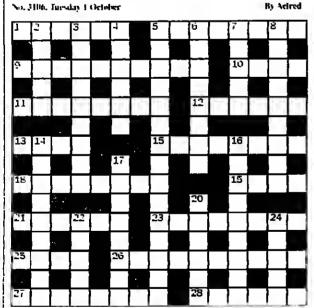
THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

transfer list at £750,000.

nis Bergkamp of Arsenal.

Graham Kayanagh, the Mid-

nothing short of a disgrace".



ACROSS In favour of appropriate

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- Produced unrestrained energy (4)
- School suppresses letter's 5 language (6) Hurried back because one 6 23

has unnatural drowsiness

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- cry of pain on island (6-3) Drop it off without moving much (6)

Maybe advice to confesor? (353.4) Star sleier performs on a street (81 It could be used to sween out bachelor's apartment

Dropped old fellows when getting rich (3-6) Officer commanding copper on vessel to Cyprus gets possession (9) Looms weaving name in fancy net make one sleepy

Tie champ up with great stress (S) Study features light coloured drawing stick(6) Gravity abandoned by

women rowers? (5) Some characters contain nervousness within (5)

Salute for Solskjaer

Age Hareide gave a wry smile after Ole Gunnar Solskjaer increased his goal tally for Manchester United on Sunday. "If I had known be was go-ing to carry on scoring like this,

I would bave sold him for £50m." the former Mancbester City defender, now coach of the Norwegian club. Molde, said. Solskjaer has made an im-

pressive start to his career in England. His double against Tottenham increased his haul to five goals, including one in the Champions' League game against Rapid Vienna.

He is not the only sporting bero in the family, however, for his father. Oyvind, was a champion wrestler in Norway. "I believe Ole has inherited some of his dad's qualities like perfect balance." Hareide said. "He also tends to move in front of goal which unsettles defenders and goalkeepers. He bas a good first touch and quick feet. We worked on his finishing, especially with his left foot and it has paid off."

"I saw the game against Tottenham on television and they were both quality finishes. He killed the defender for the

in. The sky's the limit for the boy as he is with the right club. If be had gone to Southa for example, it might well have been a different story.

"It is extraordinary the way he has bandled the pressure and taken immediately to the big stage," Hareide said. "He is a quiet, calm boy who just loves playing football. Many experienced players freeze in front of crowds, but be doesn't seem to be one of them. All he is focused on is helping the

Beckenbauer raps 'selfishness'

Franz Beckenbauer, the Bayern Munich president, attacked his players after their 3-0 defeat by Verder Bremen at the weekend and demanded an immediate improvement for tomorrow's cup match against Borussia Mönchengladbach.

The selfishness must stop," Beckenbauer wrote in the German daily newspaper Bild yesterday. "Every player must be ready to help the other. That's wbat's been missing."

Bayern players and manage-ment held crisis meetings on Sunday to discuss the team's recent poor form - the side went out of the Uefa Cup last week at the hands of Valencia. Beckenbauer acknowledged

the current situation was similar to last season, when Bayern began heightly but faded away as the players engaged in behind-the-scenes sniping and public squabbles. "But at that time, we bad chalked up seven

derestimated the signs of trou-ble," Beckenbauer said. "That won't happen to us again."

The out of favour Jürger Klinsmann, substituted at balftime against Bremen, said: "We've got major problems in building up our game and that goes right through the team. The whole system isn't working. I just hope we can pull ourselves together and show a reaction against Mönchengladbach."

Whatmore for Lancashire

Cricket

Lancashire last night appoint-ed the Australian, Dav Whatmore, as their new head coach on a one-year rolling contract. Whatmore, who guided Sri

Whatmore played seven Tests for Australia, the last of Lanka to World Cup triumph which was in 1979. The Lanearlier this year, fills the position vacated by the England coach, David Lloyd. John Stanworth, the second-team coach. lighted he is coming to Old Traftemporarily deputised for Lloyd

this year, when Lancashire won international level both as a both the NatWest Trophy and player and coach. He was very Benson and Hedges Cup, alkeen from the moment of the though they had a desperately initial approach and everyone disappointing Championship at the club is looking forward to working with him."

Speaking from Nairobi where Sri Lanka are competing in a tournament, Whatmore cashire chairman, Bob Ben- said: "I know that Lancashire nett, said: "Day Whatmore is a are the biggest club in England. proven winner and I am de- I relish the challenge of working alongside some very talented ford. He has experience at players at Old Trafford."



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